

Hafa Adai!

Missing boy is found. **PAGE 3**
New fire chief is confirmed. **PAGE 7**

75¢

Saipan Tribune

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Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios leads a press conference yesterday about the search warrant issued by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, along with updates on CNMI finances.

ERWIN ENCINARES



FBI searches Torres' office

By **ERWIN ENCINARES**
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REPORTER

Agents from the Federal Bureau of Investigation executed a search warrant on Gov. Ralph DLG Torres' office on Capital Hill early yesterday, as part of a swath of several search warrants the FBI executed in the CNMI yesterday.

Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios confirmed this in a media briefing later in the afternoon, without disclosing further information.

FBI agents reportedly appeared at Torres' office on Capital Hill as early as 9am.

Responding to questions at

the media briefing at the Office of the Governor conference room, Palacios clarified that he was leading the press conference because the governor took the afternoon off after a family member had to undergo a medical procedure

See FBI on Page 4

FBI: Several warrants executed

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

The Federal Bureau of Investigation confirmed yesterday that the FBI executed several search warrants in the CNMI and not just at the Office of the Governor.

Since the FBI does not

comment on ongoing investigations, that snippet of information was the only statement that the bureau issued yesterday since the execution of the warrants, according to FBI Honolulu media coordinator/special agent Jason K. White.

See WARRANTS on Page 4

Pickup truck catches fire in SV

By **MARC A. VENUS**
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REPORTER

A red pickup truck caught fire on the side of the road in San Vicente yesterday but no one

was hurt in the incident.

Saipan Tribune learned that the owner pulled over to the side of the road once the vehicle starting giving off black

See FIRE on Page 4

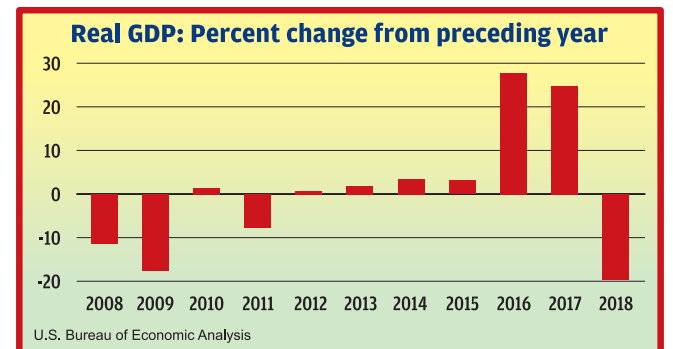
BEA: Yutu caused GDP to dip 20%

By **ERWIN ENCINARES**
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Everyone knows that Super Typhoon Yutu left the CNMI economy in shambles, but no one really knew the extent of the damage—until now.

According to a report from the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis yesterday, the CNMI's Gross Domestic Product in fiscal year 2018 dropped by nearly 20% from the previous fiscal year.

See BEA on Page 4



INSIDE



LOCAL

Midway Atoll may seem like an oasis but the scene is different on the ground.

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BUSINESS

Running a business in Nepal got the creation of Everest Kitchen started.

PAGE 18



ASIA

Vice President Leni Robredo now leads the Philippines' crack-down on drugs.

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Local

Lions Clubs orientation on Saturday

Interested in serving the community?

The Lions Clubs International District 204, Region 2

will be holding an orientation this Saturday, Nov. 9, from 8am to 10am, at the cafeteria of the Francisco Mendiola Sa-

blan Middle School (formerly San Antonio School) in Afetna. The orientation is free and comes with refreshments.

"Members are the foundation of the club," said Region 2 chair Annamae Adaza. "The more members [there are], the more services we can deliver, and [the more we would] be able to address the needs of our community..."

The orientation is open to everyone, even for members who need a refresher.

"There are a lot of new things to learn about the Lions Clubs. With the technology right now, we have to embrace changes and be able to level up at the same time," said Adaza. She also hopes that the orientation would help with membership retention. "Once the members understand what is in it for them, then we are sure that they will stay as long as they can."

For one, Lions Clubs is international, so when its members travel around the world, they can always get connected with fellow Lions Club members.

To register, contact Adaza at 285-4388; Zone chairs Al Cabael at 483-4663, Argie Buen-salido at 789-0218, Region 2 assistant secretary Bhiya Canadalla at 285-6899; and Region 2 assistant treasurer Yho Villavincencio at 285-9017. (Iva Maurin)

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Missing boy is found

By MARC A. VENUS
marc_venus@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Another scare involving a missing child was quashed yesterday after police found the child safe in a family member's home. Police did not specify his age besides saying they were able to find him after a search around the village of Chalan Kanoa.

Saipan Tribune learned that the child left his home without alerting his guardians, and went to a family member's house.

The child's guardians were unable to find the child and called the Department of Public Safety to report a missing child around Chalan Kanoa at about 3:58pm yesterday. DPS officers were

dispatched to the scene.

Officers later found the child at 5:20pm at a family member's home. DPS debunked rumors of an attempted kidnapping. Word of the child's disappearance earlier spread over social media on Wednesday.

This is the second case involving a missing child in the past two weeks, with the first being a 13-year-old female child being reported missing after reportedly helping with trick-or-treating activities in her village.

Police were able to find the female child the next day, as she was reportedly staying at a friend's home and was found safe. Police did not specify why it took several hours to track her down.

Saipan Tribune

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AG: No issues affect settlement to resolve CUC, CPA disputes

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

With only two board members showing up, the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. board failed to hold a scheduled special meeting yesterday to finalize an omnibus settlement agreement that was supposed to resolve many disputed issues between CUC and the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

As this developed, Attorney General Edward Manibusan disclosed in an interview yesterday that his office has already reviewed the omnibus settlement agreement and determined that there are no legal issues affecting it. The Office of the Attorney General is counsel for CUC.

With the lack of quorum for the 10am meeting, CUC board chair Miranda V. Manglona

postponed the meeting to 6pm later that day, as two more directors were expected to make it that time. As of press time last night, it was not clear yet if the 6pm meeting was able to push through.

At the 10am meeting, only Manglona and Jovita Paulino showed up among the directors. CUC executive director Gary P. Camacho was also present. Four directors need to be present to have a quorum.

CUC board member and Commonwealth Development Authority chair Ike Perez and CUC vice chair Weston Deleon Guerrero were expected to attend the 6pm meeting. Manglona said other directors have prior engagement.

She said CUC director Matthew Holley will not be able to attend, but that they are hoping he will be able to make it

to the meeting.

Holley, who is a member of the Torres Brothers law firm, told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday afternoon that he would not attend the meeting. He did not elaborate.

Manglona said the meeting's sole item for discussion is the omnibus settlement agreement. She said she does not want to divulge the items in the agreement until the meeting.

Others present at the supposed 10am meeting were CPA board chair Kimberlyn King Hinds, CPA executive director Christopher S. Tenorio, and CPA legal counsel Robert T. Torres. Manibusan was also present as counsel for CUC.

In an interview, CUC executive director Camacho said he can't speak for the CUC board and it's their determina-

tion whether the agreement is acceptable or not. Camacho said if the agreement is acceptable to the CUC board, they will inform CPA.

Camacho said the CPA board will meet today, Friday, to discuss the CUC board's decision.

Last June 18, the CPA board approved with some conditions the draft CUC-CPA omnibus agreement.

The terms of the agreement would basically give CUC permanent easement for usage and access to 67 water wells that are on CPA premises; the existing CUC water line transporting the water from the well to the CUC island system; CPA's 20-million gallon water tank; and the CUC sand filtration system on CPA premises.

Under the terms of the agreement, CUC has the re-

sponsibility to maintain the water wells easement.

This will provide CPA with continuous water supply from the water resources on its (CPA) premises free of charge.

CPA however, upon execution of this agreement, will pay for sewer line charges at an established flat rate.

CPA board chair King-

Hinds earlier stated that this omnibus settlement deal will resolve the specific charges that have been an ongoing dispute between CUC and CPA and would provide an offset of charges. King-Hinds said that CPA will pay CUC the sum of \$7.2 million as a settlement amount for the disputed water charges and penalty.

ERRATUM

Yesterday's print edition of the *Saipan Tribune* contained the erroneous headline: "A backlog of 3 to 24 mos." This was a typographical error. The correct headline should be "A backlog of 3 to 4 mos." Our apologies.

BEA

From Page 1

GDP is monetary measure of the market value of all the final goods and services produced in a specific time period, typically during a year.

The BEA report noted that the CNMI GDP fell to \$1.323 billion in 2018, a 19.6% decrease from fiscal year 2017, which had a GDP of \$1.6 billion, which was 25.1% higher over that of fiscal year 2016.

The BEA report noted that exports of services decreased 38.8% last fiscal year due to a decrease in visitor spending, including on casino gambling.

"Revenues from casino gambling dropped over 50%. The number of visitors to the CNMI decreased 21.5%, reflecting the effects of Super Typhoon Yutu, which made landfall on Saipan and Tinian on October 2018," the report noted.

While private fixed investment decreased by 19.8% in the CNMI, reflecting a decline in business spending on construction and equipment, the report noted that business spending on construction and equipment remained at "historically high levels," supported by continued development of the casino on Saipan, as well as post-Yutu repairs.

However, partly offsetting the declines in exports of services and private fixed investment was growth in government spending, specifically, federal government spending.

"Federal government spending more than doubled from the previous year, primarily due to recovery activities following [Super] Typhoon Yutu," the report noted.

The CNMI GDP in fiscal year 2015 posted a 3.5% increase over the preceding fiscal year. In fiscal year 2016, that increased by 28.4% increase over that of fiscal year 2015, and further went up by 25.5% in fiscal year 2017 compared to 2016.

In a press conference yesterday at the Office of the Governor's conference room on Capital Hill, Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios said that Super Ty-

phoon Yutu "was a significant attribute to the downward departure of our economy."

The airport was closed down after Yutu's devastation—a huge blow to the tourism industry in the CNMI, considering that that is the main source of the Commonwealth's revenue.

"This basically created a shock to our community and the economy. We are rebounding in 2019, and we are very hopeful that things will look a lot different in the coming days and months," Palacios said.

"Even though Yutu struck at the end of the year, the storm affected the overall number for 2018. Tourists stopped coming after the storm and this economic data reflects that negative impact," he added.

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) expects an even larger impact on the CNMI's economic data in fiscal year 2019, but he still hopes that the inflow of federal aid would help mitigate the CNMI's losses.

"Federal spending after Yutu helped to offset some of the losses from tourist dollars last year. It may be that the tens of millions of federal dollars spent this year in the recovery effort will also offset to some extent the continuing decline in tourism and other economic activity caused by the storm," he said in a statement yesterday.

Sablan said yesterday that he will be meeting with BEA director Dr. Brian C. Moyer today to go over the report's details.

"I am looking forward to getting the story behind the GDP headline number from Dr. Moyer," Sablan said. "The information that BEA produces for the Marianas and the other U.S. insular areas is a key tool for policymakers both in Washington and here at home."

"It also lets the public know whether our economy is headed in the right direction," he added.

U.S. Congress provides the money that makes production of the annual economic data possible.

FBI

From Page 1

yesterday morning.

Palacios affirmed at the media briefing that federal agents were still in Torres' office as of 3:30pm yesterday and were still executing their searches.

"We have provided them with all the information and access that they have asked for, with the intent of being completely transparent and helpful in the investigation," Palacios said, even as he assured that the searches wouldn't impede regular government operations.

He further noted that there have been no interrogations or interviews so far.

Palacios said he was sure the FBI had talked to Torres before the search yesterday, but he also noted that it was something he could not disclose on behalf of the governor.

Palacios did not confirm whether search warrants were executed on other establishments on Saipan, but IPI Holdings Ltd and its subsidiary, Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC, appear to confirm this with a "joint press release" issued last night.

According to the statement: "First, our companies have nothing to hide and will cooperate with law enforcement authorities.

"Secondly, we want assure the people of the CNMI that we continue to be law abiding

and good corporate citizens who are proud and privileged to be members of the CNMI.

"Finally, we want assure our employees, their families, vendors, patrons, and residents alike that our companies are intent on succeeding and making the CNMI the jewel of the Pacific for our emerging gaming industry."

A Guam news outlet had reported that the office of Alfred Yue of Marianas Consultancy Services LLC, an IPI consultant, had been searched, as well as Legend Realty Saipan and even Torres' home and vehicle.

Saipan Tribune yesterday reached out to House Speaker Rep. Blas Jonathan "B.J." Attao (R-Saipan) and Senate President Sen. Victor B. Hocog (R-Rota) for information but both said that they are unaware of the FBI's intent and of the search until it was made public yesterday.

Saipan Tribune also reached out to other members of the Legislature, who were all on Rota for a joint session, but they all seemed taken by surprise as well.

Palacios assured at the media briefing: "We understand the questions and concerns that are coming from our community, but we remain committed to preserving the integrity of the ongoing process. We will continue to provide full cooperation and we look forward to a positive clarification of the issues that they are

looking into."

In a separate statement, Torres noted that he holds the "highest respect" for all law enforcement officials on and off duty.

"At this time, paramount of my own responsibilities as both governor and a citizen is to provide the fullest measure of cooperation to any of [the FBI's] requests of me and of my staff," he said, adding that his priority to pursue what is "best for the CNMI and its people" is unchanged.

"In every opportunity I have been given to serve this community, I have raised my hand and have sworn an oath to uphold the constitution. A part of this oath is to respect our

WARRANTS

From Page 1

Saipan Tribune saw FBI special agent Haejun Park proceed to the second floor of the Governor's Office at 12:05pm yesterday. When asked, Park refused to comment and left the building after a few minutes.

Several FBI special agents executed the search warrant at the Governor's Office starting at 9am.

A staff at the Governor's Office later barred media from going up to the second floor of the building.

Saipan Tribune later checked the Torres Brothers law firm in Garapan at

system of laws and to allow these processes to take their course," he said.

"As information is provided, I will continue to do what I have always done, which is to support the goals and aspirations of the people I serve and to remain worthy of this privilege that has been given to me. For this reason, I look forward to continuing to do this important work with the utmost integrity," he added.

An official statement from the Governor's Office at around 12pm yesterday stated that it is confident that any resulting findings from the search will be "...no reason for concern."

3:15pm after receiving information that FBI agents were also there.

Lawyer Matthew Holley, who is a member of the Torres Brother law firm, got out from a car that was parked in front of the building and stated that the office is closed.

Saipan Tribune later texted a request for comments from the law firm but there was no reply as of press time.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres is a sibling of Torres Brothers LLC's Joaquin, Judy, Victorino, and Vincent Deleon Guerrero Torres.

Saipan Tribune also learned that among those searched was a company engaged in realty business.

between two pickup trucks, with the first sustaining notable damage on its bumper and the other receiving minimal damage.

The second was a two-car sedan collision Wednesday night, with one of the sedan's rear bumper being damaged. *Saipan Tribune* learned that no injuries were reported and all were evaluated by DFEMS responders.

DPS spokesperson Adrian Pangelinan added that the vehicle was not involved in any collision prior to it catching fire. Pangelinan said the driver sustained no injuries and that DPS is investigating the scene with DFEMS.

In other news, two separate car collisions happened on Middle Road on Wednesday, the first being a collision

extinguish the flames.

Videos of the vehicle being on fire on the side of the street later surfaced on social media and messaging applications yesterday.

DFEMS spokesperson Derek Gersonde said the cause of the fire is still under investigation and the origin of the fire was in the vehicle's engine compartment.

FIRE

From Page 1

smoke and fled the vehicle once the vehicle caught fire.

Department of Public Safety officers were called to the scene and they directed traffic in the area while waiting for Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services firefighters to

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Charge filed vs man who refused to leave ICE lobby

The U.S. government has charged a Chinese national with a criminal offense for

refusing to leave the lobby of the Immigration and Customs Enforcement office in Gualo

Rai despite being told to leave. The information charges Cheng Jin with one count of

failing to comply with lawful direction.

According to the charg-

ing information, Jin refused to comply with the order of a federal police officer to leave

the premises of federal property on Oct. 24, 2019.

Jin had gone to the office to ask for help from federal agents, saying he is tired of his immigration case and that he could no longer afford to pay his attorney's fee.

Department of Homeland Security-Federal Protective Service inspector Sean Patrick T. White arrested Jin for failure to comply with the directives of a federal police officer, and loitering or disrupting the performance of official duties.

At a hearing last Oct. 25, U.S. District Court for the NMI Magistrate Judge Heather Kennedy released Jin's on his own personal recognizance.

Steven P. Pixley was appointed as counsel for Jin in this criminal case.

White stated in his affidavit in support of criminal complaint that he received a call from the Denver Mega Center last Oct. 24 at 1:47pm about a man at the ICE-Enforcement and Removal Operations office in Gualo Rai.

White said the DMC dispatcher stated that a deportation officer called to inform them that a man in the lobby refuses to leave after being told to do so several times. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

New devices and mobile software bring us closer to Internet of Things

Apple launched iOS 13 in September, just in time for the launch of the iPhone 11, 11 Pro and 11 Pro Max, which was available at IT&E starting Nov. 1.

iOS 13 has a lot of bells and whistles that make it exciting—like a new Dark Mode that makes viewing your screen easier on the eyes and new photo and video editing tools that enable you to bring out the vibrant colors in your photos and give your home videos cinematic quality.

But what's most exciting is how iOS 13 brings us closer to a future we've all been looking for, where all our devices are connected, from our phones, to our cars, to our homes. This is what we in the tech and telecom industries call the Internet of Things.

Also known as IoT, the Internet of Things is the concept that all your devices will be able to "talk" to each other, like your computer, your phone, kitchen appliances, and car. The general idea is that one day you'll be able to talk to Siri in your car and tell it to preheat your oven for you so when you get home all you need to do is pop your dinner in.

iOS 13 boasts a lot of features that pave the road to the Internet of Things.

Improved Security

When everything is connected, there is a greater risk of hacking. There are more possible access points to your personal data. To combat this, Apple has implemented fine-tuned privacy and security controls, so you can protect your data. The update supports the

latest standard from the Wi-Fi Alliance to provide more secure browsing and prevents apps from accessing your location without your permission while you're using Wi-Fi and Bluetooth.

Apple ID is protected with two-factor authentication and Face ID doesn't store or share your photo. When you send an iMessage or make a FaceTime call, your data is encrypted.

CarPlay

CarPlay user experience is enhanced to encourage you to use it more. It's easier to use on the go and more visually appealing. According to the Apple website, automakers can develop CarPlay systems that can perform "Hey Siri" requests directly.

New smart home features

In its new operating system, Apple enhanced HomeKit, which communicates with and controls smart-home appliances. Now you can use the Home app on your iPhone to control which services your HomeKit accessories can communicate with in your network and on the internet. You can also enable your router with



HomeKit to add security to your home.

A key feature of HomeKit is that you can give it instructions by speaking to it. To improve your experience, Apple has made improvements to the intelligence behind Siri. Now Siri sounds more natural than before and can understand and assist with more tasks. She can recognize the voices of all your family members using HomePod, a smart speaker that carries

out tasks for you.

All these IOT things are made possible by fast, reliable mobile data networks like the one provided by IT&E.

To do our part to pave the way for IOT, we're bolstering the security of our mobile data network with quantum key distribution, which encrypts your data so it can't be hacked. We continue to expand our network reach, so that you can use your devices in more areas around the Marianas.

"The future is coming, and we are more than ready for it," said Jim Smith, IT&E director, Wireless Networks. *(PR)*

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 CNMI SBDC

New fire chief is confirmed

By **ERWIN ENCINARES**
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Senate confirmed a total of five gubernatorial nominations for a number of government agencies, including the Department of Fire and Emergency Services, in a session on Rota yesterday.

On a 6-0 vote, the Senate unanimously confirmed Dennis Mendiola as DFEMS commissioner. Mendiola has been occupying the post in an acting capacity since September 2019.

Sens. Sixto Igisomar (R-Saipan), Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota), and Jude Hofschneider (R-Tinian) were reportedly absent from the session on Rota.

Mendiola is a former resident deputy commissioner at the Rota DFEMS, a retired captain in the U.S. Army, and a former chairman of the Luta Soil and Water Conservation.

"...I am confident that [Mendiola] has the ability to lead the department in the right direction. I am sure his leadership skills from his past professional experiences will be a valuable asset to the CNMI DFEMS," Sen. Vinson Sablan (Ind-Saipan) told *Saipan Tribune* in an interview.

Sen. Teresita Santos (Ind-Rota) also supported Mendiola's confirmation, saying his past experience fully qualifies him for the post.

"...[Mendiola's] résumé, which includes his awards, certificates, acknowledgements and military achievements, reflect his qualifications and his good character," she told *Saipan Tribune*, adding that this was further supported by oral and written comments from the Guam Fire Department, the Western Pacific Island Association of Fire Chiefs, and the Fire Chief at Guam's Anderson Air Force Base.

"With these testimonies, we can draw a summation that [Mendiola] possesses the leadership traits and qualities that make an excellent DFEMS commissioner," she added.

Besides Mendiola, the Senate also confirmed Diana Hocog and Zerlyn Taimanao to the CNMI Scholarship board, Edward Deleon Guerrero to the Commonwealth Health Care Corp. board, and Aubrey Hocog to the Commonwealth Development Authority.

Senate Committee on Executive Appointments and Governmental Investigations chair Sen. Francisco Cruz (R-Tinian) said that he and his committee saw no reason to deny the appointments.

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1st Guma' Higai of the Chamorro Village is unveiled

By IVA MAURIN
iva_maurin@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The vision of recreating a Chamorro village is off to a good start with a ribbon-cutting ceremony yesterday for a thatched traditional Chamorro hut called a "Guma' Higai" at the Civic Center in Susupe.

CNMI master of arts and culture Eusebio Borja built the Guma' Higai with his family. They started building last Aug. 15, and had to go through two storms before the hut was finished.

"I am very happy to do this for the community to show the community that this is what we were using traditionally," Borja said.

Borja, along with his family, built the hut by hand, using organic materials.

"We all did this by hand. It's hard, particularly during the rainy season, when it is hard to climb trees, and carry materials from the jungle, where it is slippery," Borja said. "It is not easy, but you don't feel tired because you see your progress, and now, people can see this kind of house."

IVA MAURIN

CNMI Master of Arts and Culture Eusebio Borja, with his family, pose in front of the Guma' Higai, a thatched traditional Chamorro hut that they built at the Civic Center in Susupe.



Borja also said that he is trying to get inmates who are on probation or are doing community work to be involved with building more Guma' Higai.

"Through this, the community will realize that we are doing something that will promote our culture, and our fam-

ily values," Borja said.

Roman M. Tudela Jr., executive director of the Indigenous Affairs Office, and Isidoro T. Cabrera, president of the Inetnun Amut Yan Kuturan Natibu, presented a cer-

tificate of recognition to Borja and his family yesterday to memorialize the first Guma' Higai they built.

"This is the traditional house, and it's important to showcase to our younger

generation so that they know their history," Cabrera said. "This is going to be the first of many thatched houses that will be built one at a time. The next one will be coming up pretty soon."

Essay contest asks: Is Greta right?

Are you a high school student who loves to write?

The Saipan College Prep Academy is holding its "1st Annual SCPA Essay Contest" for high school students on the island.

The contest is a double competition, with one open only to SCPA students, and the other being open to all high school students in the CNMI.

Students need to write a 650-word essay on the topic, "Is Greta Thunberg right?" and submit it to Keith Tessen or Wanja Choi at the SCPA on or

before Dec. 15 for SCPA students, and Dec. 30 for the rest.

Thunberg is a 16-year-old climate change activist. In the essay, the students need to write whether or not they agree with Thunberg, and justify their position.

"My students are teenagers and I wanted to inspire them," Tessen said.

"Greta Thunberg is a teenager, and this girl is out there changing the world. I am hoping that [the students] will begin to understand that even though [they are] very young,

[they] can do something to change things."

Tessen, who runs SCPA, said that hosting the essay competition is a good way to emphasize the academy's main focus, which is improving the reading and writing skills of students.

Winners in both contests will each take home \$500, second placers \$250, and third placers \$125.

For more information, contact SCPA at 285-1669 or email Tessen at keithalltessen@gmail.com. (Iva Maurin)

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‘Call Finance to settle tax rebates’

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Department of Finance is urging residents who have not received their tax rebates to call the Division of Revenue and Taxation to clarify the delay since the department is only holding back checks for those who still have tax issues.

Finance Secretary David Atalig urged residents yesterday to reach out to the Division of Revenue and Taxation for assistance on the release of their tax rebates.

“We have paid all taxes due except those that have issues with their tax returns,” Atalig said, adding that issues with documentation are a common reason for tax rebate check delays. “We are uploading and paying in weekly batches for those that have cleared their tax issues.”

The Finance Department released the first batch of tax rebates, which amounted to about \$7.48 million, last Sept. 18. The second batch of tax rebates, amounting to about \$2.1 million, was released in late October 2019.

In total, tax rebates for fiscal year 2018 total nearly

\$21 million, with \$11 million for the federally funded child tax rebates.

Atalig previously affirmed that the tax refund money was temporarily used for Super Typhoon Yutu recovery, causing a delay in the release of the annual tax rebates for fiscal year 2018. Tax rebates are usually distributed around the end of May or early July.

“...With the governor’s emergency declaration for the response and recovery of Super Typhoon Yutu, all monies were used to get us through. Unfortunately, we were not reimbursed as quickly as anticipated, therefore I couldn’t replenish it to the levels needed for the full refund,” Atalig previously said.

He also noted in a previous interview that the recent Typhoon Bualoi also delayed the second batch’s release.

“I’m not holding any tax refunds. In fact, it has been my goal to have monies paid out so it can circulate into the economic system on island,” he told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

Those who still have issues with their tax rebates can check with the Division of Revenue and Taxation at 664-1000.



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Saipan Tribune
THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

COMMUNITY BRIEFS**CNMI Got Talent 9 deadline extended**

Due to popular demand, Bridge Capital LLC's CNMI's Got Talent 9 audition deadline has been extended. The new deadline for audition submission is on Nov. 12, 2019. To join simply submit your audition in any video format at the Bridge Capital office from Monday to Friday from 8am to 5pm. Over \$9,000 in prizes will be given away. For more information, call (670) 322-2222 or send an email to talentsearch@banmi.com or visit the website www.cnmigottalent.com. All auditions should be Christmas-themed.

Kagman schools set PTSA meeting

This is to inform all parents, guardians, and the community that the Kagman Unified Schools will be having a Parents Teachers Students Association meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 12, 2019, at 5:30pm in the Kagman High School cafeteria. We are encouraging all parents, and guardians to attend this meeting. Child care will be provided.

Please call the any of the three schools at 237-3150 (KAGE), 237-3165 (COVMS), or 237-3196 (KHS) if you have any questions or concerns. (PR)

MHS activities

Marianas High School will be having its first semester Mid-Progress Open House on Nov. 14, 2019, from 4pm to 6pm at the new cafeteria. A Parents Teachers Students Association meeting will be held on Wednesday, Nov. 20, 2019, 6pm at the new cafeteria. (PR)

MVA membership meeting on Thursday

The Marianas Visitors Authority will hold its semi-general membership meeting on Nov. 14, 2019, at the Royal Taga Ballroom of the Saipan World Resort at 10am. Registration will begin at 9:30am. For more information, contact communityprojects@mymarianas.com or call (670) 664-3200. (MVA)

CWA to host Fun-Raise-Her

The CNMI Women's Association is inviting everyone to its inaugural "Fun-Raise-Her" Dinner on Nov. 22, 26-10pm, at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan in Garapan to help further CWA's work that help fund programs and services that serve girls and women. Tickets are priced at \$75 per person and can be purchased by calling 233-8978/9411, emailing cwa.fogumoro@gmail.com, or visiting the CWA Office (Building #1223) on Capital Hill. (IBM)

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A blog called 'Artesano Kitchen'

SPOTLIGHT

By BEA CABRERA
beacabrerasaipan@gmail.com
CORRESPONDENT

Editor's Note: This article is part of "Spotlight," a recurring series featuring CNMI personalities. To suggest a person to feature in this section, email us at editor@saipantribune.com.

Artesano Blog is the brainchild of Tinian High School graduate John Kenneth Casauran, with a goal to promote home

cooking in the Marianas.

"I was really inspired when I saw a documentary called *Cooked*, where it highlighted the importance of home cooking and how we are 'human' because we started cooking," he said.

He said that human beings are naturally social and eating together is part of that nature. "When people eat together, we all start to talk to each other, get to know each other better. The same is true about cooking," he said.

That's because when humans cook, it is a craft. "We don't just do it to feed people, we do it to express our emo-



BEA CABRERA
"There is a science to cooking. Science teach you techniques that will awaken your creativity and turns an ordinary dish into something else," said John Kenneth Casauran of Artesano Kitchen blog.

tions on a plate."

Casauran's interest in cooking goes beyond the practical aspect of mixing ingredients. With his blog, he promises not just recipes but also science and philosophy that spotlight food and cooking.

"For the science portion, I try to promote modern techniques so you can pretty much cook [an ordinary] dish...but, when you add a modern technique, it tastes the same but is essentially way better," he said.

"I use science to get the best out of everything. It is technical but it's pretty simple and it's like looking at it from a different perspective. ...They can also find a fusion between my Filipino [upbringing] and the Marianas where I grew up. I'm still learning the proper way of to cook local food but I try to give homage to the (Marianas) culture by cooking precisely how they would do it because I am not a fan of short cuts," he added.

After graduating from high school, Casauran, 24, pursued culinary school in the Philippines. He calls himself a cook, a baker (or boulanger), and a writer. He currently works in the kitchen of the Kensington Hotel in San Roque.

He wants to share the things that he has learned in cooking school and contribute to the Marianas culinary scene. "I spent half of my life here and thought I should give back, share what I learned from school."

"Although Saipan is a small community and has gone through tough times especially after super typhoons, the kindness of the people remain the same. They come up to you, even strangers, and greet you with a smile... so...I wanted them to know there are other ways of cooking, eating, and different ways to experience food," he said.

Visit Casauran's blog at www.artesankitchen.co or send him an mail at johnkc1995@hotmail.com.

Business Expo tomorrow

The 2019 Saipan Business Expo will take place tomorrow, Saturday Nov. 9, from 9am to 4pm, at Saipan World Resort's Royal Taga Hall.

The Saipan Business Expo gives the community the opportunity to learn more about the products and services of businesses that call the CNMI home and serve the local market.

Vendors ranging from new start-ups, small business owners, to long-time local enterprises will all be showcasing what they have to offer.

The event is free and open to the public.

Additionally, there are many opportunities to receive free raffle tickets for prizes from vendors:

For walking in the door, you'll receive one free raffle ticket.

Every time you share its flyer on www.facebook.com/spnchamber, you'll receive one free raffle ticket (up to three free tickets for sharing; to claim ticket, come to the event and show the post).

For visiting and speaking with 10 of the expo vendors, you'll receive five free raffle tickets.

Those attending will also be the first to view new products, special discounts on products and services for the holidays, and more—all in one place!

The list of vendors includes: Budget/Payless Rental Car, Census, Chiku Chiku, Colorstreet Nails, D&Q Saipan, D&R Visuals, First Hawaiian Bank, I Love Saipan, Island Training Solutions, IT&E, Laolao Bay Golf & Resort, N15 Architects, Ocean Ridge Homes, Marianas Health Services, Marianas Pacific Distributors (MARPA), Pacific Trading Company, Pacifica Insurance, Paradise Dental Spa, Rebel-Fi CNMI, Saipan Programming School, Surfrider Hotel, Tahine's Productions, and Takecare Insurance.

Follow the Saipan Chamber of Commerce on Facebook at www.facebook.com/spnchamber to continue to see updates about what its vendors will be displaying.

For more information and updates, contact Noelani McMahon by emailing coordinator2@saipanchamber.com, calling (670) 234-7150, or by visiting the Chamber office between 8am and 12pm, 1pm and 5pm, at the Marianas Business Plaza, Suite 315.

For more information about the Saipan Chamber, go to saipanchamber.com, call (670) 234-7150 or visit the third floor of the Marianas Business Plaza, Suite 315. (PR)

SHRM noms due today

Nominations for the Society for Human Resource Management-NMI Chapter's board are due today, outgoing president Catherine Cachero told the Saipan Chamber of Commerce last Wednesday at its membership meeting at the Hyatt Regency Saipan's ballroom.

Elections will happen soon as Cachero's term is ending and she will be replaced by incoming president Pina Magofia from Fiesta Resort & Spa.

Cachero will remain on the SHRM board as an immediate past president. She said that SHRM will be having its next meeting on Nov. 21; the venue will be announced at a later date. The meeting will feature a video presentation from the U.S. Department of Justice and will feature clarifications on the USCIS Form I-9, which is the Employment Eligibility Verification, and the Immigration Reform and Control Act.. (Marc A. Venus)

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Iconic Pacific bird sanctuary ravaged by plastic and death

MIDWAY ATOLL, Northwestern Hawaiian Islands (AP)—Flying into the uninhabited Northwestern Hawaiian Islands, Midway Atoll appears out of the vast blue Pacific as a tiny oasis of coral-fringed land with pristine white sand beaches that are teeming with life.

But on the ground, there's a different scene: plastic, pollution and death.

With virtually no predators, Midway is a haven for many species of seabirds and is home to the largest colony of albatross in the world.

But Midway is also at the center of the Great Pacific Garbage Patch, a vast area of floating plastic collected by circulating oceanic currents. The Hawaiian Islands act like a comb that gathers debris as it floats across the Pacific. A recent analysis found that the patch is accumulating debris at a faster rate than scientists previously thought.

Midway is littered with bird skeletons that have brightly colored plastic protruding from their decomposing bellies. Bottle caps, toothbrushes and cigarette lighters sit in the centers of their feathery carcasses.

"There isn't a bird that doesn't have some (plastic)," said Athline Clark, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's superintendent for Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument, which Midway is part of. They "fill their bellies up with plastics instead of food and eventually either choke or just don't have enough room for actual nourishment and perish."

Sharp plastic pieces can also perforate their intestines and esophagus.

Papahānaumokuākea, which quadrupled in size under President Barack Obama in 2016, is the world's largest marine conservation area and was inscribed in 2010 as a UNESCO mixed World Heritage site.

"Papahānaumokuākea is both a biologically rich and culturally sacred place," Clark said. "The Hawaiians call it a place of abundance, or *aina momona*."

But circulating currents

now bring an abundance of plastic and other trash from all around the Pacific Rim to Hawaii's beaches. The debris ranges from tiny microplastics that nearly every animal in this marine ecosystem ingests to huge fishing nets that gather plants, animals and other debris while bulldozing across fragile coral reefs.

"The estimates are that there's about 57,000 pounds of marine debris that washes ashore within this part of the archipelago annually," Clark said.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service biologist Kelly Goodale lives and works on Midway, the site of a decisive World War II battle, and said the plastic that washes ashore there each year is just part of the problem.

"Not only are our beaches getting it, but also our albatross will bring it and feed it to their chicks," Goodale said.

Albatross spend much of their lives at sea feeding and flying thousands of miles across the oceans before returning to Midway each year to lay eggs and raise their young.

"So we estimate about 5 tons (4.5 metric tons) of plastic being brought to Midway every year just by adult albatross feeding it to their chicks," Goodale said.

The albatross tend to seek out squid eggs that attach themselves to floating pieces of plastic, which is why so many birds are eating the material, Clark said.

And it's not just the seabirds that are harmed by ocean plastic. Endangered Hawaiian monk seals and green sea turtles can die while entangled in plastic nets. Sharks and other apex predators eat smaller fish that feed on microplastic. Whales drag fishing line and buoys behind them during their long migrations across the world's oceans.

It's important to understand the relationship between the oceans, marine life and humans, Clark said.

She shared a Native Hawaiian proverb: "*Ma o ke kai pili ai kakou*." It means, "The ocean connects us all."



AP
In this Oct. 22, 2019, photo, plastic sits in the decomposed carcass of a seabird on Midway Atoll in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands.



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Infant (under 2 yrs.) FREE

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Renewed PH passports being issued

The Philippine Consulate General in Guam, in coordination with the Office of Honorary Consul Eli Arago, is releasing passports to those who renewed their passports last Sept. 17, 18, and 19, 2019. You can pick up your new passport at the second floor, Bldg. D, of the Finasisu Terraces Apartment, at the top of

the Mini-Mart Store, Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm (12pm-1pm breaktime).

Please bring your old passport and receipt. If someone else will pick up your passport, the applicant should issue an authorization letter.

For any inquiry or details, call Mel Santos at 233-6293. (PR)

Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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Volume XXIX, Issue No. 220

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EDITORIAL

Mexican government needs new strategy to take on cartels

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The victims—three women and six children, including 6-month-old twins—were likely not targeted for their nationality or their religion, an offshoot of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Rather, authorities believe, they were probably mistaken for rival cartel members, which in these debased days of criminality in portions of Mexico was enough to lead to the brazen and brutal slaughter.

It's just the latest episode of extraordinary violence that should shock the conscience of Mexico—and America. Just two weeks ago, Mexican troops had to release Ovidio Guzman Lopez, the son of the infamous, and now convicted, drug lord known as El Chapo, after the Sinaloa cartel supporting him besieged the city of Culiacan in an assault that threatened to turn the city into a bloodbath of innocent victims.

On Tuesday, President Donald Trump tweeted an offer that the U.S. help Mexico “wage WAR on the drug cartels and wipe them off the face of the earth” and that “The great new President of Mexico has made this a big issue, but the cartels have become so large and powerful that you sometimes need an army to defeat an army.”

Mexican President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador didn't appear ready or willing to take Trump up on his offer of U.S. support, and has generally rejected an overly martial response, favoring a “hugs not bullets” anti-crime approach.

But the bullets keep hitting their targets in Mexico, with record killings in 2018 and 2019.

Monday's murders, which included some victims burned alive in their vehicle, must not go unpunished. But justice must be pursued for other victims, too, and the Mexican government must come up with a more effective strategy to take on the cartels that are waging war within—and, in effect, on—the country.

(c)2019 Star Tribune (Minneapolis)



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CHCC has come up with a great idea. Way better than their idea to just not pay their electric bill. This idea lets some reasonably modern technology take the place of handwritten ledgers, rubber bands, and paste. They propose to provide “telepharmacy” services to the folks on Tinian and Rota, neither of which has a functioning pharmacy or even a pharmacist to do the pharming. By allowing a video teleconference between the patient and the CUC pharmacy on Tinian/Rota and a licensed pharmacist here on Saipan, the patient can get his medicine in a safe, vetted manner without a trip to Saipan or Guam to get that six packs of Valium. This great idea costs little, saves a lot, and solves many problems. Good work CHCC.

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If this involved just paying for a roundtrip ticket and the guy from Rota jumps on a plane, comes to Saipan and attends the board meeting, then flies home, it would be expensive. But that is not the way it typically happens. The Rotanese board member just can't seem to get that Saipan air connection so he flies to Guam, stays a day or two for shopping and taking care of business, other business. Then he flies on to Saipan a couple of days early, rents a car, checks into a hotel—a nice one—and takes care of some shopping and some business (monkey business). Then he finally attends the board meeting but, dam it, now the plane has left so he has to go back to the bar...er...hotel and wait 'til the next day to fly back home to Rota and deliver his packages. Multiply that times a dozen or two meetings a year for this guy, then multiply that times a dozen or two other such boards that meet on Saipan and finally multiply all that times two so we can similarly accommodate the guys from Tinian. All of this typically on the government dime. Meaning you, the taxpayer, is paying for it. Are you having fun yet?

Now that we've saved a half million on board meetings and made life better for prescription medicine seekers on our sister islands of Tinian and Rota, I now propose one that will save millions! We'll call this one “TeleLegislativeSessions.” Just like how big Fortune 500 companies save millions of dollars by making teleconferencing the new high tech—a secure way instead of transporting human bodies all over the place. Our little corner of the globe can do the same thing. Sure, you can see this one coming a mile away. All legislators from Tinian and Rota sit in their comfy den at home or in their snazzy legislative office on Rota or Tinian and video teleconference themselves into the Saipan legislative sessions. No need to miss any. No need for that \$5,000 per month unaudited slush fund

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EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Staple of acquiescence

It is said that public policy is what actually runs a country. In our case, we approved the Covenant Agreement in the mid-'70s that set up our relationship with our national government.

The basic document included establishment of a presidential system of government and a seven-year guaranteed funding for the emplacement of basic infrastructure here.

Since 1977, we started electing our public officials. Our journey wasn't necessarily all smooth-sailing but we strengthened self-government along the way.

After 46 years, I think it's time that we turn our attention to quality policies on investment NMI-wide. It's the only pathway to ably and capably meet the growing socio-economic needs of the islands.

We can't afford acquiescence—accepting anything that descends from the blue skies of paradise—to dictate our way of life. We must establish an active and proactive role forging the quality of life here through a set of fully thought-out plans.

That entails time and meticulous planning that we must begin forthwith before it is too late. This requires major organizational meeting of pertinent agencies and private industry leaders—the collective goal being investments.

The view is to proactively assist current and newly established businesses reset buttons that allows growth to move forward. A

bit of attention and help on small businesses should grant owners the courage to move about confidently.

Stumble

The industry has and still is supported by visitors from the Land of the Rising Sun, a market aided by our historic relationship with our Nippon brothers and sisters before the war.

However, a thriving upstart we stumbled on an unfortunate experience that prompted the exit of Nippon investment in recent past. I'm hopeful that it has been mutually resolved. The NMI can't afford boasting arrogance dealing with countries here like Japan.

I'd stretch mini-tourism investment by asking: what's one policy that would lift the quality of life at home? Is it a higher minimum wage? What would be its foundation?

Definitely, the answer is in a healthy economy. Do we have one now the work product hailing from both sectors? Isn't it time that we focus on investments? In other words, we've consistently been out of focus. Time to reset buttons for our survival!

Disoriented:

There's also the temptation by legislators meddling with the enforcement of policy apparently confused over their role: policy formula-

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.

Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the Saipan Tribune.



tion or implementation? Is this really that difficult to understand?

Or is it attributable to reading deficiency, therefore the backwards recitation of their ABCs? Unsolicited interference only delays and confuses plans in progress.

Policymaking and implementation of policy are two different beasts where you're confused of your role. Humiliating!

Shore:

Occasionally, I'd drive down Beach Road from up north just to admire the grand stretch of the calm sea to the reef and the golden beach on the shore. Then there's the grandly colorful sunset.

Around the Puntan Muchot shoreline was where we used to follow grandpa throw-net fishing. We'd clean it up in the sand then place it in our coconut leaf-woven container. The trip was both fun and purposeful.

Deep State

There's growing collision on the role of the so-called Deep State (appointed officials) versus the elected group.

Sure, the Deep State comprises thousands of people who have confused their role versus the duly-elected representatives of the people. Let's say President Trump decides on a policy matter. Could Deep State staffers overrule his decision? The answer is obvious!

Now, if you're still confused revisit the concept of the presidential system to secure clarity of understanding.

Moreover, the attempt by Dems and the media mob to remove Trump failed royally. It deserves a full handclap by all. It was an all-out effort to impeach the Donald but can't be pinned on "high crimes" because he never committed any.

And so there's now a long line to Washington to collectively intone "Lullaby And Good Nite" to sooth baseless political accusations versus the Donald. He may be brash but he gets the job done for our people across the fruited plain.

AETNA

At a clinic, the clerk said I'm not a member of AETNA that took me by surprise. After all, the firm continues to take money from my paycheck and I never received notice that my membership has been forfeited. I left in humiliation!

Next, there's a note from AETNA that I should use regular medical daytime services at CHC. Is AETNA wary of what a medical emergency is about relating to cardiovascular concerns? Or does it have a qualified cardiovascular doctor to assist patients in this situation before heading to the ER?

I actually went through this frustrating experience. Therefore, I'm not just raising hell as a discombobulated member. We have "due process rights" or did you forget this AETNA? I will not hesitate employing my due process rights next time it happens!

On wise men, mob talk, and money monsters

Where Wise Men Should Seldom Tread

"Fools rush in where angels fear to tread."

—Alexander Pope

A fool and his thoughtless tweets are soon parted sending them off half cocked with poor grammar yes it was his brain silent but deadly that farted yes for angry rants his dwindling base does clamor news reports tell of phone calls yet not a single sound rationalizing policies gone bad bring sulfuric winds tweet storms warning of retribution say don't fart around and that's the way a 45 POTUS day begins and ends some say 'fools rush in where wise men seldom tread' the biggest fool is old school drool inside 45's head the great William Shakespeare paraphrased Socrates in his play, *As You Like It*, revising words like these "the fool doth think he is wise, but wise knows himself to be a fool." worse when tweeting becomes a disease.

The Richcraft Monster

"Wilt thou tell a monstrous lie? Thou monstrous slanderer of heaven and earth."

—Shakespeare

Come and watch the Richcraft monster rage ridiculous rant in a White House cage he calls a 'dump' at the all new D.C. zoo. The Richcraft monster was the result of a brief union between an obstinate oligarchic Ostrich and a greedy Giraffe; the world cried and laughed as it watched its canipions and face fall in half Many animals in the zoo though

LITERARY NOOK

By JOEY 'PEPE BATBON' CONNOLLY

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Joey "Pepé Batbon" Connolly is a retired teacher and has been named a poet laureate of Tinian. He has taught English in CNMI public schools for the past 30 years. He has also taught in Alaska, New Orleans, and Las Vegas.



aware of the monsters raw rarity wished for the old equivalence three branch government parity.

The fool, his head in the sand same fool his head in the clouds purposely missing a meeting loving his crowds racist shouts the sycophants bow to the boss his cabinet praises and sweats how 'sad' can adult children get his highness at a total loss and lost in a partisan swampy sea cancelling his own party primaries at a loss for words and new ways to deal with the nation and world using mob methods and old school ways he believes his own lies and money pays.

Coda for Congressional hearings: Perjury problems remain for the POTUS and the Ukraine in the Biden blame game.

OMG!

From Page 14

Different people have different opinions. In my opinion, the guy who needs to go to jail is not the landlord trying to provide a service and make a buck renting out his property at a rate mutually agreed upon by both landlord and tenant, but the socialist do-gooder scum that thinks some government bureaucrat should be in control of transactions between consenting buyers and vendors of merchandise and services. Where does it end up when you allow the bureaucrats to regulate the economy? They screw it up every time. I give you Venezuela, Zimbabwe, the now extinct USSR—all died from an overdose of equal distribution outrage.

Slam dunk

Looks like the Marpi so-called public park deal, like the Outer

Cove closure/Smiling Cove money extortion scheme, is a done deal. No public hearings. In one case, the deal was done under the table using a phony "emergency" declaration and under the false reason of a "safety" issue and, in the other, just ramrodding it through the Legislature with some platitudes about saving the land for future generations and no public hearings at all.

Even the Tina, the Transparency Princess, sees no reason for public debate about one of the most impactful actions to come down the pike for decades. Big tracts of public land are being forced by law to be taken away from its rightful owners, the CNMI NMDs under the governance of DPL, and deeded over to the DLNR without those constitutional protections that safeguard it now. It seems those pesky public hearings and input from stakeholders isn't important if the land grab contains a nice tree-hugger phrase like "public parks." Nothing to see here, move along. We'll let you know all about it once we've filled in

the grave and placed the marker.

No need to belabor either of these two distasteful misappropriations of the public trust. As I said, they are under-the-table done deals. Just bend over and enjoy it, sans Vaseline.

Thanks for reading *Sour Grapes*. Next time we'll look at the previously promised Heritage Trail. I promise. Yeah, Bruce. Sure.

■ ■ ■

Companies and government institutions enter indigenous territories. They want lots of land for raw materials for the global market and indigenous communities around the world are seeing their lands threatened by the extractive and agro-industries, by land conservation schemes and by tourism developments.

—Nuer Bachman

I do not fear computers. I fear the lack of them.

—Isaac Asimov

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Staple of acquiescence

It is said that public policy is what actually runs a country. In our case, we approved the Covenant Agreement in the mid-'70s that set up our relationship with our national government.

The basic document included establishment of a presidential system of government and a seven-year guaranteed funding for the emplacement of basic infrastructure here.

Since 1977, we started electing our public officials. Our journey wasn't necessarily all smooth-sailing but we strengthened self-government along the way.

After 46 years, I think it's time that we turn our attention to quality policies on investment NMI-wide. It's the only pathway to ably and capably meet the growing socio-economic needs of the islands.

We can't afford acquiescence—accepting anything that descends from the blue skies of paradise—to dictate our way of life. We must establish an active and proactive role forging the quality of life here through a set of fully thought-out plans.

That entails time and meticulous planning that we must begin forthwith before it is too late. This requires major organizational meeting of pertinent agencies and private industry leaders—the collective goal being investments.

The view is to proactively assist current and newly established businesses reset buttons that allows growth to move forward. A

bit of attention and help on small businesses should grant owners the courage to move about confidently.

Stumble

The industry has and still is supported by visitors from the Land of the Rising Sun, a market aided by our historic relationship with our Nippon brothers and sisters before the war.

However, a thriving upstart we stumbled on an unfortunate experience that prompted the exit of Nippon investment in recent past. I'm hopeful that it has been mutually resolved. The NMI can't afford boasting arrogance dealing with countries here like Japan.

I'd stretch mini-tourism investment by asking: what's one policy that would lift the quality of life at home? Is it a higher minimum wage? What would be its foundation?

Definitely, the answer is in a healthy economy. Do we have one now the work product hailing from both sectors? Isn't it time that we focus on investments? In other words, we've consistently been out of focus. Time to reset buttons for our survival!

Disoriented:

There's also the temptation by legislators meddling with the enforcement of policy apparently confused over their role: policy formula-

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.

Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the Saipan Tribune.



tion or implementation? Is this really that difficult to understand?

Or is it attributable to reading deficiency, therefore the backwards recitation of their ABCs? Unsolicited interference only delays and confuses plans in progress.

Policymaking and implementation of policy are two different beasts where you're confused of your role. Humiliating!

Shore:

Occasionally, I'd drive down Beach Road from up north just to admire the grand stretch of the calm sea to the reef and the golden beach on the shore. Then there's the grandly colorful sunset.

Around the Puntan Muchot shoreline was where we used to follow grandpa throw-net fishing. We'd clean it up in the sand then place it in our coconut leaf-woven container. The trip was both fun and purposeful.

Deep State

There's growing collision on the role of the so-called Deep State (appointed officials) versus the elected group.

Sure, the Deep State comprises thousands of people who have confused their role versus the duly-elected representatives of the people. Let's say President Trump decides on a policy matter. Could Deep State staffers overrule his decision? The answer is obvious!

Now, if you're still confused revisit the concept of the presidential system to secure clarity of understanding.

Moreover, the attempt by Dems and the media mob to remove Trump failed royally. It deserves a full handclap by all. It was an all-out effort to impeach the Donald but can't be pinned on "high crimes" because he never committed any.

And so there's now a long line to Washington to collectively intone "Lullaby And Good Nite" to sooth baseless political accusations versus the Donald. He may be brash but he gets the job done for our people across the fruited plain.

AETNA

At a clinic, the clerk said I'm not a member of AETNA that took me by surprise. After all, the firm continues to take money from my paycheck and I never received notice that my membership has been forfeited. I left in humiliation!

Next, there's a note from AETNA that I should use regular medical daytime services at CHC. Is AETNA wary of what a medical emergency is about relating to cardiovascular concerns? Or does it have a qualified cardiovascular doctor to assist patients in this situation before heading to the ER?

I actually went through this frustrating experience. Therefore, I'm not just raising hell as a discombobulated member. We have "due process rights" or did you forget this AETNA? I will not hesitate employing my due process rights next time it happens!

On wise men, mob talk, and money monsters

Where Wise Men Should Seldom Tread

"Fools rush in where angels fear to tread."

—Alexander Pope

A fool and his thoughtless tweets are soon parted sending them off half cocked with poor grammar yes it was his brain silent but deadly that farted yes for angry rants his dwindling base does clamor news reports tell of phone calls yet not a single sound rationalizing policies gone bad bring sulfuric winds tweet storms warning of retribution say don't fart around and that's the way a 45 POTUS day begins and ends some say 'fools rush in where wise men seldom tread' the biggest fool is old school drool inside 45's head the great William Shakespeare paraphrased Socrates in his play, *As You Like It*, revising words like these "the fool doth think he is wise, but wise knows himself to be a fool." worse when tweeting becomes a disease.

The Richcraft Monster

"Wilt thou tell a monstrous lie? Thou monstrous slanderer of heaven and earth."

—Shakespeare

Come and watch the Richcraft monster rage ridiculous rant in a White House cage he calls a 'dump' at the all new D.C. zoo. The Richcraft monster was the result of a brief union between an obstinate oligarchic Ostrich and a greedy Giraffe; the world cried and laughed as it watched its canipions and face fall in half Many animals in the zoo though

LITERARY NOOK

By JOEY 'PEPE BATBON' CONNOLLY

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Joey "Pepé Batbon" Connolly is a retired teacher and has been named a poet laureate of Tinian. He has taught English in CNMI public schools for the past 30 years. He has also taught in Alaska, New Orleans, and Las Vegas.



aware of the monsters raw rarity wished for the old equivalence three branch government parity.

The fool, his head in the sand same fool his head in the clouds purposely missing a meeting loving his crowds racist shouts the sycophants bow to the boss his cabinet praises and sweats how 'sad' can adult children get his highness at a total loss and lost in a partisan swampy sea cancelling his own party primaries at a loss for words and new ways to deal with the nation and world using mob methods and old school ways he believes his own lies and money pays.

Coda for Congressional hearings: Perjury problems remain for the POTUS and the Ukraine in the Biden blame game.

OMG!

From Page 14

ing, a job, and a chance to move up.

Different people have different opinions. In my opinion, the guy who needs to go to jail is not the landlord trying to provide a service and make a buck renting out his property at a rate mutually agreed upon by both landlord and tenant, but the socialist dogooder scum that thinks some government bureaucrat should be in control of transactions between consenting buyers and vendors of merchandise and services. Where does it end up when you allow the bureaucrats to regulate the economy? They screw it up every time. I give you Venezuela, Zimbabwe, the now extinct USSR—all died from an overdose of equal distribution outrage.

Slam dunk

Looks like the Marpi so-called public park deal, like the Outer

Cove closure/Smiling Cove money extortion scheme, is a done deal. No public hearings. In one case, the deal was done under the table using a phony "emergency" declaration and under the false reason of a "safety" issue and, in the other, just ramrodding it through the Legislature with some platitudes about saving the land for future generations and no public hearings at all.

Even the Tina, the Transparency Princess, sees no reason for public debate about one of the most impactful actions to come down the pike for decades. Big tracts of public land are being forced by law to be taken away from its rightful owners, the CNMI NMDs under the governance of DPL, and deeded over to the DLNR without those constitutional protections that safeguard it now. It seems those pesky public hearings and input from stakeholders isn't important if the land grab contains a nice tree-hugger phrase like "public parks." Nothing to see here, move along. We'll let you know all about it once we've filled in

the grave and placed the marker.

No need to belabor either of these two distasteful misappropriations of the public trust. As I said, they are under-the-table done deals. Just bend over and enjoy it, sans Vaseline.

Thanks for reading Sour Grapes. Next time we'll look at the previously promised Heritage Trail. I promise. Yeah, Bruce. Sure.

■■■

Companies and government institutions enter indigenous territories. They want lots of land for raw materials for the global market and indigenous communities around the world are seeing their lands threatened by the extractive and agro-industries, by land conservation schemes and by tourism developments.

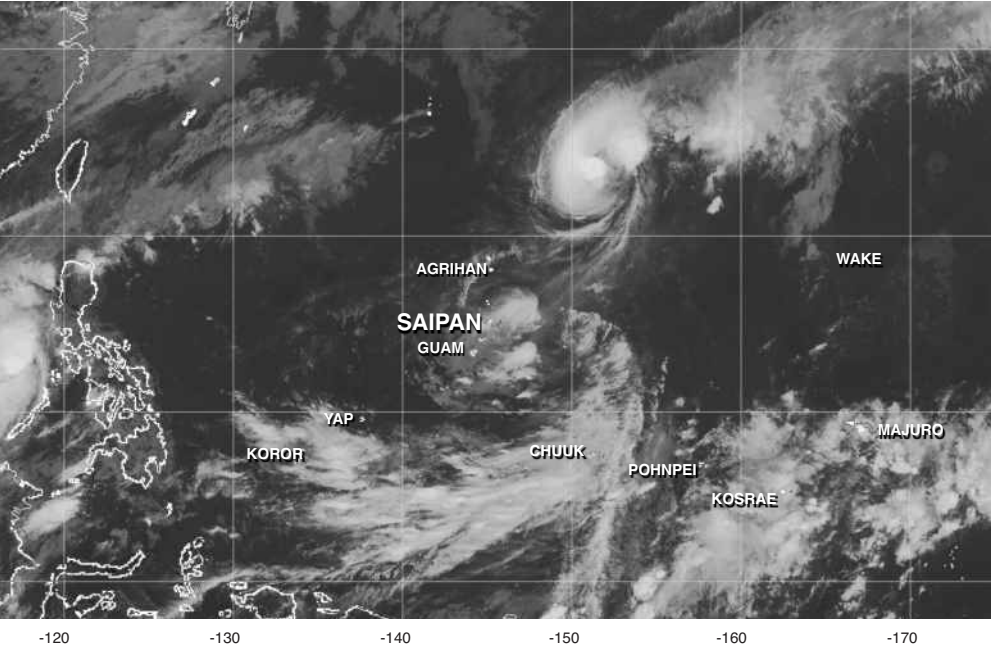
—Nuer Bachman

I do not fear computers. I fear the lack of them.

—Isaac Asimov

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN									
TODAY		SATURDAY		SUNDAY		MONDAY		TUESDAY	
Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms.		Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms.		Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.		Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Isolated thunderstorms in the evening.		Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	
86°	76°	86°	76°	86°	76°	87°	76°	87°	76°
YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE									



PICTURE TIME: 9:05 AM, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2019
WESTERN NORTH PACIFIC BETWEEN EQUATOR AND 25N FROM 130E TO 180.

Guam radar shows isolated showers moving through the Marianas waters. The movement of the echoes highlights a complicated flow pattern as some are moving from northeast to southwest and some are moving from northwest to southeast. It seems likely the latter are lower level echoes and the former are upper level echoes. The VAD wind profile indicates northwest winds of 7 to 13 knots through the lowest three thousand feet of the air. Above this, between 10 and 18 thousand, is the layer with northeast winds of 15 to 25 knots. The buoys reveal combined seas of 4 to 6 feet with occasional 7 foot readings at Saipan. They are composed mainly of a northeast swell, however a new southwest swell is just starting to show up.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an up-dated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA ▼ ▲ °F		
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	84° / 78°
Palau	Thunderstorms	84° / 77°
Yap	Thunderstorms	86° / 79°
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	86° / 80°
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	86° / 77°
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	86° / 77°
Majuro	Thunderstorms	85° / 80°

AROUND THE GLOBE ▼ ▲ °F		
Auckland	Showers	66° / 63°
Beijing	Mostly Cloudy	61° / 45°
Hong Kong	Sunny	81° / 70°
Honolulu	Showers	84° / 72°
London	Partly Cloudy	48° / 36°
Los Angeles	Sunny	87° / 60°
Manila	Thunderstorms	88° / 79°
Melbourne	Showers	55° / 50°
Miami	Thunderstorms	84° / 75°
New York	Sunny	42° / 30°
Osaka	Mostly Sunny	66° / 48°
Paris	Mostly Cloudy	48° / 39°
Busan	Sunny	64° / 46°
Rome	Rain	63° / 52°
Salem	Mostly Cloudy	58° / 39°
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	61° / 36°
Seoul	Sunny	95° / 75°
Tokyo	Mostly Sunny	61° / 48°
Washington, DC	Mostly Sunny	44° / 29°

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY FEET		
4:47 AM	LOW TIDE	1.28
10:48 AM	HIGH TIDE	0.40
5:25 PM	LOW TIDE	1.68
11:59 PM	HIGH TIDE	0.47

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:15 AM	5:45 PM
Saturday	6:15 AM	5:45 PM
Sunday	6:16 AM	5:45 PM
Monday	6:16 AM	5:45 PM
Tuesday	6:17 AM	5:44 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	2:33 AM	3:11 PM
Saturday	-	3:20 AM	3:47 PM
Sunday	-	4:07 AM	4:32 PM
Monday	-	4:54 AM	5:00 PM
Tuesday	-	5:43 AM	5:40 PM

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235-3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF OCTOBER 27, 2019							
DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA117	9:15am	9:55am	Daily	UA174	7:30am	8:10am	Daily
UA105	6:20pm	7:00pm	2, 4	UA104	4:50pm	5:30pm	2, 4
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
7C3451	3:20am	6:30am	Daily	7C3452	9:35pm	2:30am+1	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
				7C3452	10:05pm	2:30am+1	3
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
TW308	2:05am	6:05am	Daily	OZ6233	8:00am	1:20pm	2, 4, 6
OZ626	2:10am	6:10am	1	OZ623	8:55am	2:30pm	1, 3, 5, 7
OZ626	2:50am	6:25am	3, 7	7C3402	10:10am	3:30pm	Daily
OZ626	2:50am	6:40am	2, 4, 5, 6	OZ625	7:30pm	1:00am+1	7
7C3403	4:35am	8:35am	Daily	TW307	7:45pm	1:05am+1	Daily
OZ6243	3:20pm	7:10pm	2, 4, 6	OZ625	8:20pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
OZ624	3:50pm	7:40pm	1, 3, 5, 7	7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily
7C3401	4:30pm	8:25pm	Daily				
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8648	6:10am	8:50am	1, 4, 5, 7	3U8647	10:30pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)				HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN			
JD396	7:30am	12:05pm	1	JD395	8:05am	3:30pm	4
JD396	4:50pm	7:55pm	4	JD395	8:50pm	5:00am+1	7
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)				GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8646	4:30am	7:50am	2, 6	3U8645	8:10pm	3:10am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)				BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU764	1:30am	6:00am	3, 5, 7	MU763	4:50pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ626/701	2:10am	10:35am	1 via ICN	UA184/174	12:40am	8:07am+1	3, 6 via GUM
OZ626/701	2:50am	10:35am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ702/625	12:05pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
UA117/183	9:15am	9:50pm	Daily via GUM	OZ702/625	12:05pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA117/193	9:15am	11:50pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR	UA192/174	10:40pm	8:07am+1	2, 5 via GUM-ROR
				UA184/174	10:55pm	8:07am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
				OZ704/6233	11:45pm	1:20pm+1	1, 3, 5 via ICN
				OZ704/623	11:45pm	2:30pm+1	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)				HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
OZ626/721	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN	OZ746/6233	12:30am	1:20pm	2, 4, 6 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ746/623	12:30am	2:30pm	1, 3, 5, 7 via ICN
UO43	5:35am	8:25am	1	OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
UO43	5:50am	8:40am	3, 5, 7	OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ6243/9661	3:20pm	11:15pm	2, 4, 6 via ICN	UO42	6:25pm	1:20am+1	7
OZ624/9661	3:50pm	11:15pm	1, 3, 5, 7 via ICN	UO42	9:25pm	4:20am+1	2, 4, 6
LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, PR PAL Express; BC SkyMark ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. <i>(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)</i>							
STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.							
SAIPAN TO ROTA				1203	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	1204	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
1301	7:30AM	8:00AM	Daily	1205	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
1302	11:30AM	12:00PM	Daily	1206	12:00PM	12:15PM	Daily
1303	4:00PM	4:30PM	Daily	1207	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
				1208	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
				1209	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
				1210	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
				1211	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
				1212	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily
ROTA TO SAIPAN				TINIAN TO SAIPAN			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3101	8:15AM	8:45AM	Daily	2102	7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
3102	1:45PM	2:15PM	Daily	2103	8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
3103	4:45PM	5:15PM	Daily	2104	9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
				2105	10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
				2106	11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
				2107	12:30PM	12:45PM	Daily
				2108	1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
				2109	2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
				2110	3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
				2111	4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
				2112	5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
				2113	6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily
ROTA TO GUAM							
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY				
3401	12:15PM	12:45PM	Daily				
GUAM TO ROTA							
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY				
4301	1:00PM	1:30PM	Daily				
SAIPAN TO TINIAN							
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY				
1201	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily				
1202	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily				

Free *sakman* rides at indigenous expo

The public is invited to enjoy free rides on the *sakman* (canoes) of 500 Sails this Saturday, at the Indigenous Cultural Expo at the Civic Center in Susupe.

The expo, which will be held this Nov. 9 from 9am to 9pm, will also feature a Kantan Isla Concert.

Three canoes will be available for rides. The canoes will be prepared starting at 9am, with the first rides scheduled for 10am. Children are welcome but not infants.

Canoes included will be: *Neni*, *Richard Seman* (named after the late DLNR Secretary Richard Seman), and the latest *sakman* (commissioned by Indigenous Affairs Office). The IAO *sakman* will receive her official name and blessing at a “Takpångi” ceremony.

For more information, visit the 500 Sails page on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/500SailsDolphinClubSaipan>, email info@500sails.org, or call Emma Perez 670-285-4268. (PR)

500 Sails is offering free rides on its three *sakman* (canoes) this Saturday, at the Indigenous Cultural Expo at the Civic Center in Susupe.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Phan is ready to self-surrender

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

David Trung Quoc Phan is ready to turn himself in so he could start serving his eight-month prison sentence after being convicted in a scheme to bring Bangladeshi men to Saipan on promises of jobs and green cards in exchange for cash.

At a status conference last Tuesday at the U.S. District Court for the NMI, Phan confirmed that he received a copy of the order prepared by the District Court's clerk of court last Oct. 23, where designated judge John C. Coughenour declined to modify the sentence he had imposed on Phan.

At a status conference Tuesday, Phan informed U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona that he is ready to self-surrender.

Manglona advised Phan that he has two options—to be remanded into the custody to begin serving his sentence or to remain at liberty until notified by the U.S. Marshals to self-surrender.

Assistant U.S. attorney Eric O'Malley did not object to the two options.

Phan said he wishes to remain at liberty until notified by the U.S. Marshals to self-surrender.

Manglona allowed Phan to remain at liberty and informed him to report to the U.S. Marshals once notified to self-surrender.

Phan recently asked Coughenour to recommend to the Bureau of Prisons for him to serve his sentence in home confinement as opposed to imprisonment in a correctional facility in the U.S. mainland.

Phan, 56, a U.S. citizen, said because his sentence of imprisonment is less than one year, he believes that any incarceration should be served at the Department of Corrections on Saipan rather than off-island in a federal prison.

The U.S. government, however, opposed Phan's request. O'Malley said Phan is an adult who should have considered the consequences of his actions and the impact it would have on his family a long time ago.

» **After judge denies home confinement requests**

“It is time for him to truly take responsibility for his actions, to pay his debt to society instead of continuing to consume government resources, and to serve the sentence this court has rendered exactly as it was rendered,” O'Malley said.

On Oct. 18, 2017, a federal jury convicted Phan of two counts of mail fraud, three counts of fraud in foreign labor contracting, and one count of fraud and misuse of visas and permits.

Coughenour sentenced him to eight months in prison, and two years of supervised release.

Phan appealed his conviction to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit and asked that he remain at liberty while the Ninth Circuit considers his appeal. The District Court granted Phan's motion for temporary release last May 2.

Last June 18, the Ninth Circuit affirmed Phan's conviction. The Ninth Circuit also denied his request to rehear the appeal or reconsider its decision.

Manglona then extended Phan's period of release until Tuesday's status conference.

Phan has no prior criminal record before his conviction.



DIVISION OF COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

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NOTICE OF APPLICATION

As of November 08, 2019

THE FOLLOWING IS A PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF COASTAL PERMIT APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BY THE DCRM OFFICE:

APPLICANT	DATE APPLICATION RECEIVED	APPLICATION PROJECT DESCRIPTION	LOCATION	TYPE	STATUS
1. IT&E	10/17/2019 TPI-2019-X-007	Fiber Drop Installation	Tinian	Ports & Industrial	Approved* 11/05/2019
2. Glory, Inc.	10/16/2019 SLR-2020-X-003	Snorkeling & Scuba Diving	Grotto, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Approved* 10/29/2019
3. Sea N Sky, LLC	10/17/2019 STLR-2020-X-004	Scuba Diving Tour Operation & Instruction	All Designated Dive Sites on Saipan & Tinian	Lagoon & Reef	Approved* 10/29/2019
4. Zone-D Development Limited	10/01/2019 SS-2019-X-01	Concrete Perimeter Fence Saipan	Atuhong Loop, Chalan Piao	Shoreline	Approved* 1/01/2019
5. Suwaso Corporation Saipan dba Coral Ocean Golf Resorts	10/01/2019 SMS-93-X-54 Amendment 2020-1	Repair & Expansion of Existing Swimming Pool and Surrounding Area	As Gonno Road, Koblerville, Saipan	Major-Siting	Approved 11/01/2019
6. Blue & Blue, LLC dba B & B Tour	10/09/2019 SLR-2020-X-002	Snorkeling	Grotto, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Approved* 10/16/2019
7. Xin Long Corporation dba Saipan Golden Dolphin Club	10/24/2019 STLR-2020-X-005	Scuba Diving Tour Operation & Instruction	All Designated Dive Sites on Saipan & Tinian	Lagoon & Reef	Approved* 11/06/2019
8. Department of Public Lands	10/28/2019 TMS-2020-X-006	Marpo Heights Phase II Homestead Subdivision	Central Plateau Area, Tinian	Major-Siting	Application Review*
9. Micronesia Resort Inc. dba Kensington Hotel	11/01/2019 SLR-2018-X-185-R2 Amendment 2020-1	Sail Boat/Hobie Cat Operation	San Roque, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review
10. Pelley Boat Charters, Inc.	11/07/2019 SPI-2020-X-007	Drydock	Lower Base, Saipan	Ports & Industrial	Under Review*
11. CAP, LLC	11/07/2019 SMS-2020-X-008	Transfer of Interest & Name Change	Chalan Laulau, Saipan	Major-Siting	Reissued Permit Number*
12. CAP, LLC	1/07/2019 SMS-96-X-79 Amendment 2019-1	Transfer of Interest & Name Change	Chalan Laulau, Saipan	Major-Siting	Void/New Number Issued
13. GPPC, Inc.	08/06/2019 TMS-2019-X-048	Rock Quarry	Tachugnya, Saipan	Major-Siting	Final Review*
14. Geming Xu dba Li Xu, LLC	09/05/2019 SMS-2019-X-060	Latte Stone Hotel	Garapan, Saipan	Major-Siting	Final Review*

NMIAC §15-10-210 of the CRM Rules and Regulations requires all permit applications to be published in a newspaper for general circulation within the CNMI within 15 days of receipt of application. The list reflects recently received permit applications and those with a recent change in status. New applications are marked with an asterisk (*).

The Public is invited to submit written comments regarding any of the above projects for which a permit decision has not been issued. All permit comments should identify the project by application number. Your comments should be mailed or hand-delivered to the DCRM Office. All persons who desire a public hearing regarding any project may do so by submitting a written request for a public hearing to the DCRM Office within fourteen (14) days for minor permits (APCs) and proposed amended major sitings. Public Hearings are required for all new major siting projects. All public hearing notices are published in a local newspaper of general circulation. Residents of Rota and Tinian may submit comments and hearing requests to their local DCRM Coordinator. Persons wishing to retain the right to appeal a DCRM Permit decision must file a notice of appeal with the DCRM office within thirty (30) days of the issuance of the DCRM permit decision as provided in Part 200 § 15-10-235 of the DCRM Regulations.

Business

'It was our dream to put up Everest Kitchen'



By BEA CABRERA
beacabrerasaipan@gmail.com
CORRESPONDENT

Everest Kitchen president Laxmi Shrestha believes that if you work hard and hold tight to a vision or a dream, life will give you what your heart desires.

For almost six years since Everest Kitchen opened on Micro Beach Road in Gara-

pan, Shrestha lives everyday with intent, purpose, and sharing good things from where she came from.

"My husband Chola and I are from Nepal. He came to Saipan in 1997 and I followed in 2003 and worked in a household. A year later, I transferred to Nikko Hotel and worked as a cook and even if we worked for somebody else

every day, our dream of having our own business someday kept us going," she said.

"I grew up in my mother's restaurant in Nepal and had a small restaurant too after Chola and I got married but we closed it to come here. Comments from friends on Saipan when I cook for them were always encouraging so their feedback and our experience

in running a business in Nepal gave us the confidence to give it a go," she added.

Everest Kitchen serves

BEA CABRERA

"We do not serve dishes that we like rather we serve food that the community wants," said Everest Kitchen president Laxmi Shrestha.

Nepalese and Mediterranean food which is considered the healthiest diet in the world. "As much as possible, we serve healthy food starting from our soup, salad, na'ans, main dishes to desserts. We do not use MSG or any artificial flavors as I make our own spices to get true flavors," Shrestha said.

"The community loves it because we have fresh local vegetables and out of 12 dishes that we serve at the buffet, we only have two dishes that would have chicken or fish," she added.

Popular dishes include chicken curry, chicken masala, and butter chicken. Shrestha

said that when they organize their everyday menu, they do not think of dishes that they like. "We put out dishes that the community wants and that's how we maintain our quality and business structure-giving what our customers want."

Most customers of Everest Kitchen are locals. "Even if we have slow days, it is still not bad because we have a following. About 35% of the people who come to our restaurant everyday are the same individuals. We are not really worried about tourists but we also get one or two of them in some days," she said.

"We are a point that more than earning a profit, giving good service comes first. Our service comes from the heart and not from the pocket. Of course, we need to earn to survive but it is not desperate that we will compromise what the customers wants as they are family to us," she added.

Shrestha's food is not only




BEA CABRERA

Partners in life and in business, Chola B. Gharti and Laxmi Shrestha, opened the first and only Nepalese/Mediterranean restaurant called Everest Kitchen on Saipan in 2013.

good for the body but for the soul. "The food that we serve is an extension of our culture. We cook it like how mother cooks, not commercial just all simple and authentic home cooking," she said.

"Before we opened in 2013, I always talked about the future and say I hope to open a restaurant on Saipan someday. Now that it's here, I talk about the future with hope that our food continues to nourish and keep the community healthy in the years to come," she added.

Everest Kitchen is open Monday to Saturday with its lunch buffet for only \$13 from 11am to 2pm. Special celebrations or parties are accommodated at night via reservations. For more information, call (670) 233-2688 or go to Facebook: Everest Kitchen



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS

CUC-IFB-19-038

REPAIR OF OIL STORAGE TANKS – CUC SAIPAN AND ROTA POWER PLANTS

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified and experienced firms for the Repair of Oil Storage Tanks – CUC Saipan and Rota power plants, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Most of the tanks are still in "active" use.

Prospective Bidders for this IFB must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The IFB package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 for one IFB package set.

A Pre-bid Conference and a Site Visit is scheduled on **October 23 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at CUC Saipan Power Plant No. 1, Administration Building, Lower Base, Saipan and **October 24 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at CUC Rota Power Plant, Songsong Village, Rota, to ensure that the contractors are fully aware of the work involved and familiarize with the site conditions. All proposers are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the proposers due to lack of information or understanding of the plant site conditions in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid or performance of work under the contract.

One (1) Original and Five (5) Hard Copies of the bid must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "IFB CUC-19-038: Repair of Oil Storage Tanks, CUC Saipan and Rota power plants" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on November 18, 2019**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement this form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

A Bid Guarantee of **fifteen percent (15%)** of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The bid guarantee may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. A Performance Bond of **one hundred percent (100%)** of the total proposal price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC. A Payment Bond of **one hundred percent (100%)** of the total proposal price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers questions, concerns and qualification should be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract. Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

The bidder is required to submit a copy of his CNMI Business license in compliance with the Contractor's Registration and Licensing Laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, upon award of the contract. The Contractor and all subcontractors will be obligated to pay wage rates not less than the current CNMI minimum wage, prevailing through the period of contract, as indicated in the web page – <http://www.dol.gov/esa/minwage/cnmi/cnmi.htm>. The contractor shall be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws.

Contractors are advised that the work will be carried out as a part of CUC response actions under the terms of Stipulated Order No. 2 (SO 2). CUC may split the contract work based on island location, i.e. separate contracts for the island of Saipan and Rota in the best interest of expediency and competitive rates. Project performance quality would be verified by third party quality assurance specialists with certified and approved credentials.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered bidders and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on October 28, 2019** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator, at email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org, with a copy to CUC's Utility Coordinator/ ATMO at email address venugopal.prabhakara@cucgov.org and to Christie Sablan, Purchasing Technician, Senior, at email address christie.sablan@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids for any reason and waive any defects in said bid proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Executive Director

MANNY BOYER SABLAN
Purchasing Administrator



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY (CPA)

CNMI GOVERNMENT

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950 • Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

PROJECT NO. CPA-RFP-003-20

SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF AUTOMOTIVE DIESEL OIL

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting sealed proposals for the supply and delivery of Automotive Diesel Oil for its use at the Saipan International Airport and Port of Saipan.

The RFP package is available beginning November 01, 2019 from 0800 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday at the Office of the Executive Director, 2nd Floor, Arrival Building, Saipan International Airport.

Interest proposers must submit one original and two copies of the sealed proposal. The sealed proposals must be submitted before 4:30 p.m., November 22, 2019, to the Office of the Executive Director at the aforementioned location.

CPA reserves the right to reject any or all proposals if in its opinion to do so is in CPA's best interest.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
Executive Director

Nation

Massacre of Americans shows drug war worse this time around

MEXICO CITY (AP) — There was a time when the violence of Mexico’s 2006-2012 drug war shocked Americans, but barely touched them. This time around — like everything else about the country’s renewed cartel conflict — it’s worse.

The slaughter of three U.S. women and six of their children, some infants, in the northern state of Sonora Monday punctured the old belief that the drug cartels would avoid killing foreigners, women or children. But it wasn’t the first, or the only, such case.

Children are being killed with chilling frequency as the unwritten rules of Mexico’s drug war appear to fade. In August, gunmen burst into a house in Ciudad Juarez, home of the Juarez cartel, and fired 123 bullets that killed girls aged 14, 13 and 4, along with an adult male who apparently was the real target.

A few days before the Sonora massacre, police arrested a suspect in the state capital of Hermosillo who was holding a New York-based businessman for ransom, in a case of a foreigner being targeted. The man was kidnapped near Tucson, Arizona, and apparently moved across the border in the trunk of a car.

The shocking killings of the nine Americans by gang gunmen prompted an offer from U.S. President Donald Trump to help Mexico wage a war to wipe cartels “off the face of the earth.” Mexican President Andrés Manuel López Obrador rebuffed the offer, but others at home and abroad are wondering if the time has come for him to change his “hugs not bullets” policy of avoiding confrontations with gangs and instead addressing social problems.

Breaking the old rules against killing children, families or attacking foreigners no longer appears to be a priority — or even a concern — for criminals anymore, given the weak law enforcement in Mexico.

“From the criminal’s perspective, killing one person or killing nine, it’s all the same,” said security analyst Alejandro Hope. “They don’t see any increased risk in committing these kinds of acts of extreme brutality.”

“The same goes for killing children, they don’t see any line drawn in the sand,” said Hope. “And the reason they don’t see it is that the government hasn’t drawn it.”

The Americans lived in communities in Mexico founded decades ago by an offshoot of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Moving reports of mothers trying to protect their children from the hail of bullets and wounded children walking for hours to get help for the youngest survivors intensified calls from abroad for a new war on drug cartels.

Mexico’s militarized war on drug cartels began in 2006 under President Felipe Calderón and was continued by his successor, President Enrique Peña Nieto.

The center-left López Obrador has rejected this approach, instead creating a National Guard and saying the way to fight Mexico’s violent crime is with work programs and opportunities for youths.

He stuck to that position following Monday’s massacre, rejecting Trump’s and others’ calls for a war on cartels.

“We declared war, and it didn’t work,” Lopez Obrador

said Tuesday, referring to the policies of previous administrations. “That is not an option.”

He didn’t even budge after the army was humiliated by the Sinaloa cartel on Oct. 17, after soldiers were forced to release the captured son of drug lord Joaquin “El Chapo” Guzman to avoid further bloodshed after cartel gunmen counterattacked in greater numbers in the city of Culiacan.

The cartels got the message they can face down authorities, analysts say. After the

confrontation in Culiacan, an official in the Sonora border city of Nogales reported that police stopped a carload of armed suspects there who told police to back off or they would “do what they did in Culiacan” to them.

California’s worst wildfire transforms city that didn’t burn

CHICO, Calif. (AP)—Amber Blood got to Chico on Nov. 8, 2018, wearing pink slacks and her favorite white peacoat. It was all she had left.

Blood was among tens of thousands forced to flee as a wildfire roared through Paradise and nearby communities in Northern California, killing 85 people and destroying roughly 19,000 buildings.

Nothing burned in Chico, the closest big city. And within hours, another city had moved in — filling up hotels, living in trailers, sleeping on friends’ couches and buying up every available home, apartment and spare room.

A year later, most are still there. State officials estimate Chico has added 20,000 people, boosting the population from 92,000 to more than 112,000. The city didn’t expect that number until at least 2030.

“We all feel lost, still,” said Blood, who has since bought a home in Chico. “This house is beautiful, and I don’t even feel like it is my home. It’s weird.”

What’s happened in Chico in the year since California’s deadliest wildfire shows how blazes — growing more frequent and destructive with climate change — have lasting effects far beyond the flames.

“You normally would have a decade to prepare for such growth,” Chico Police Chief Michael O’Brien said. “We had about 10 hours.”

Chico officials say they need close to half a billion dollars to improve infrastructure and hire enough police officers and firefighters to cover the surge in people. But because the city is outside the burn area, it isn’t eligible for most state and federal disaster funds. The most it’s gotten is \$3 million from the Legislature.

Aside from housing shortages and more traffic, the influx has strained the city in unexpected ways. About three weeks after the fire, Chico’s sewer system was handling an additional million gallons (4 million liters) a day, or the equivalent of adding an extra 5,000 homes.

City officials had hoped the increase was temporary. But now, the system is handling an additional 600,000 gallons (2.3 million liters) a day from fire survivors, costing an extra \$53,000 per month. That’s money Chico doesn’t have.




COMMONWEALTH JUDICIARY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE
Guma' Hustisia / Iimwal Aweewe / House of Justice
P.O. Box 502165 • Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone (670) 236-9700/9800 • Facsimile: (670) 236-9702
Website: www.justice.gov.mp

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY
The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Judiciary is seeking a highly motivated individual for the position of:
ACCOUNTANT I
Announcement # JVA20-001
DUTIES: The successful candidate will work under the general supervision of the Presiding Judge and direct supervision of the Director of Courts or his/her designee on Saipan which involves work in the maintenance and examination of accounting records and procedures and in the preparation of analysis of financial reports. The duties of this position include, but are not limited to the following:

- Maintain various ledgers, registers, journals and other records required in fiscal operations;
- Furnishes budgetary data to higher-level accountants for budget analysis;
- Prepares financial statements and reports for review by supervisor and operating personnel;
- Maintains records necessary for the determination and reporting of federal expenditures and fund balances;
- Takes trial balances and makes adjusting and closing entries;
- Verifies and analyses financial data and prepares financial statements and reports;
- Participates in the collection, compilation, classifications and evaluation of fiscal data;
- Maintains budgetary accounts and financial records for an office;
- Maintains control accounts so that the status of funds may be determined;
- Post entries to these accounts from supporting documents;
- Post and balances journals and ledgers and reconciles accounts;
- Coordinates work of the clerical staff in an office;
- Assists in preparing budget estimates by gathering pertinent information from various book of accounts;
- Assigns and reviews the work of others for accuracy and completeness;
- Explains departmental procedures to other employees and the public; and
- Performs other related duties as assigned.

QUALIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS: Candidate must have a high school diploma or equivalent and should have a combination equivalent to graduation from college or university with a BA major in accounting or related field, a minimum of two (2) years experience in accounting work. Successful candidate must provide current police and traffic clearances and proof of eligibility to work in the CNMI. Applicants given a conditional offer of employment with the CNMI Judiciary will be required to submit to urinalysis to screen for the illegal use of drugs prior to employment.
COMPENSATION AND TENURE: This position is appointed by and serves at the pleasure of the Presiding Judge. The salary range will be \$20,000.00 - \$20,450.00 annually.
INTERESTED PERSONS may obtain application form at the Marianas Business Plaza, Suite 212 on the second floor or Window #3 at the front of the Guma Hustisia/Iimwal Aweewe/House of Justice in Susupe, or at the Superior Court offices on Kotten Tinian and Centron Hustisia in Rota. Completed applications, cover letter, and three references should be submitted to:
Human Resources
Guma Hustisia/Iimwal Aweewe/House of Justice
P.O. Box 502165
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel. (670)234-4252
Cell. (670) 783-8592
Fax. (670) 236-9702
hr.judiciary@NMJjudiciary.com
This job announcement will remain open until filled and can be seen and a printable copy of the application downloaded at <http://www.justice.gov.mp>.
THE CNMI JUDICIARY IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER.



COMMONWEALTH JUDICIARY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE
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Website: www.justice.gov.mp

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY
The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Judiciary is seeking a highly motivated individual for the position of:
CASE WORKER I
Announcement # JVA20-002
DUTIES: The successful candidate will work under the supervision of the Drug Court Manager in the Drug Court Division on Saipan which is responsible for drug court assessments, case management with drug court participants and provides ongoing support to the Drug Court operation/functions. The duties of this position include, but are not limited to the following:

- Conduct intake, assessment, establish case plan for referred participants;
- Conducts program/phase orientation and inform participants of legal requirements and implications concerning treatment;
- Tracks drug tests, group attendance, individual counseling attendance, outside groups (Alcoholics Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous, Discovery Course) and other services;
- Provides case management;
- Coordinates/conducts individual, family and group therapeutic/educational/substance abuse treatment sessions/and crisis intervention;
- Conducts discharge planning and provides referrals for continuing treatment;
- Provides follow-up contact as needed;
- Communicates with Compliance Specialist and other Drug Court staff to secure resources for participants;
- Maintains files, records legal and case documentation in accordance with established regulatory policies and procedure;
- Attends staff meetings, in-service training, workshops, and interagency conferences to coordinate services;
- Attends Drug Court sessions as needed; and
- Performs other duties as assigned.

QUALIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS: Candidate must have a high school diploma or equivalent and have obtained a bachelors degree from a recognized college or university in Social Work, Psychology, Sociology, or closely related field. Have three (3) years experience as a counselor in substance abuse treatment programs. Any equivalent combination of experience and training which provides the minimum knowledge, abilities and skills required for the position.
COMPENSATION AND TENURE: This position is appointed by and serves at the pleasure of the Presiding Judge. The salary will be \$35,000 - \$40,000 per annum.
INTERESTED PERSONS may obtain application form at the Marianas Business Plaza, Suite 212 on the second floor or Window #3 at the front of the Guma Hustisia/Iimwal Aweewe/House of Justice in Susupe, or at the Superior Court offices on Kotten Tinian and Centron Hustisia in Rota. Completed applications, cover letter, and three references should be submitted to:
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Asia

VP accepts Duterte's offer for her to play role in drug war

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—The vice president of the Philippines on Wednesday accepted President Rodrigo Duterte's offer for her to play a lead role in his deadly crack-down against drugs, even though she's been critical of the campaign and has been warned it could be a political ploy to destroy her.

Vice President and former human rights lawyer Leni Robredo said that by agreeing to the unusual offer, she may be able to save lives under the campaign, which has left thousands of mostly petty drug suspects dead in purported gunbattles with police, alarming Western governments and rights groups.

"Many have expressed concerns that this is an insincere offer, that it's a trap which only aims to undermine and put me to shame," Robredo said at a news conference. "While it can be said that this offer is just politicking and that the agencies won't really follow me and would do everything so I won't succeed, I'm ready to endure all of these."

"If I can save even one innocent life, my principles and my heart tell me that I should try," she said.

Communications Secretary Martin Andanar welcomed Robredo's decision. "We believe that the loudest critics should act beyond mere observers, but be active contributors for change," he said.

"Vice President Robredo must be granted power to halt



AP
Philippine Vice President Leni Robredo delivers her statement Wednesday, Nov. 6, 2019, in suburban Quezon city northeast of Manila, Philippines.

in the Philippines, resulting in candidates from rival parties like Duterte and Robredo ending up in the country's top leadership and often colliding on policies.

Robredo, 58, is a respected former human rights lawyer and political newcomer, while the 74-year-old Duterte is a former longtime city mayor whose image as an extra-tough crime fighter helped him win the 2016 presidential race in a country long exasperated by widespread violence.

Robredo has raised the alarm and questioned the drug killings and other actions of Duterte, including his call for the return of the death penalty in the largely Roman Catholic nation and his decision to allow the 2016 burial of dictator Ferdinand Marcos in a heroes cemetery.

In 2016, Robredo resigned as housing secretary, a Cabinet post, citing "major differences in principles and values" with Duterte and an unspecified plot to remove her from the vice presidency, but she stayed on as vice president. She said at the time that the last straw was when she was forbidden from attending Cabinet meetings amid her public differences with Duterte.

the daily killings and change the deadly command structure we have documented, otherwise this move will be an empty gesture," said Nicholas Bequelin, Amnesty International's regional director for East and South-east Asia. "Her appointment does not change the fact that the Duterte administration's 'war on drugs' amounts to crimes against humanity."

Piqued by Robredo's con-

stant criticism of his drug campaign, Duterte formalized an offer to appoint her as one of two heads of an inter-agency committee that includes the police and the military and is tasked with overseeing and coordinating the government's efforts to combat illegal drugs.

It's the latest twist in the unprecedentedly massive crack-down Duterte launched after he took office in mid-2016. More

than 6,300 mostly petty drug suspects have been killed after allegedly resisting arrests and about 1.3 million others have surrendered, officials said. But human rights groups have cited a higher death toll and accused some policemen of killing unarmed suspects based on flimsy evidence and altering crime scenes to make it look like the suspects violently fought back.

At least two complaints for

mass murder have been filed before the International Criminal Court over the large-scale deaths, but Duterte has vowed to continue with the bloody campaign up to the last day of his presidency in June 2022.

Duterte and the police have denied condoning extrajudicial killings under the crackdown.

Presidents and vice presidents are separately elected

Pro-Beijing lawmaker in HK stabbed while campaigning

HONG KONG (AP)—An anti-government assailant stabbed and wounded a pro-Beijing Hong Kong lawmaker who was election campaigning Wednesday, police said, in another escalation of violence surrounding the protests demanding political reforms in the semi-autonomous Chinese territory.

Junius Ho has become a hated figure by the protesters over his alleged links to violence against them. After receiving initial medical treatment, Ho told reporters the knife had been blocked by his rib cage and that he was left with a minor 2-centimeter-deep (0.79-inch-deep) wound.

Police have arrested the assailant. Ho, two of his assistants and the attacker were all injured, hospital officials said.

At a news conference Wednesday in Beijing to wrap up her visit to mainland China, Hong Kong's embattled leader, Carrie Lam, condemned the attack on Ho and said she

was concerned over rising public proclivity for violence.

"How can protesters carrying out violent acts claim to be pursuing freedom and democracy? Their every move challenges the freedom and violates the rights of the majority of the Hong Kong people," she said.

Lam, who earlier held talks with Vice Premier Han Zheng, said she was grateful for support from Chinese leadership during her trip and pledged to strictly enforce the law to restore order. She also met President Xi Jinping in Shanghai on Monday, seen as an endorsement of her government's handling of the crisis.

"The violent activities carried out by radical separatist forces have gone far beyond the bottom line of law and ethic," Han Zheng said. "The most important work for the Hong Kong society now is to stop violence and restore order."

China's foreign ministry

recently dismissed a report that said Beijing planned to replace Lam next year. But the ruling Communist Party said in a statement Tuesday that it would "perfect" the system to appoint and dismiss Hong Kong's leader and top officials, in an indication of firmer grip on the territory. No details were given.

A video circulating on social media showed a man giving flowers to Ho and asking permission to snap a picture with him. Instead, the man drew a knife from his bag and stabbed Ho in the chest but was quickly overpowered by Ho and several others.

The man kept hurling abusive comments at Ho, calling him "human scum."

Ho has been targeted by anti-government protesters since July 21, when armed masked men in white T-shirts violently attacked demonstrators and passengers at a subway station in northern Yuen Long, injuring 45 people.

Malaysia detains Cambodia opposition leader amid return plan

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia (AP)—Malaysia's government said Thursday it detained the No. 2 official of a banned Cambodian opposition party, as regional countries backed Phnom Penh's bid to block the return of self-exiled leaders accused of plotting to overthrow the government.

Foreign Minister Saifuddin Abdullah said Mu Sochua, vice president of the Cambodia National Rescue Party, was held by immigration officials upon landing at the Kuala Lumpur airport Wednesday night from Jakarta. Her detention followed the arrest of two party youth activists in Malaysia late Monday.

He indicated that she won't be deported, saying immigration officials only wanted to know her intention of entering Malaysia. While there was a Cambodian request to deport opposition officials, Saifuddin said Malaysia makes its own decision without foreign interference.

"We are not in the position to deport people and neither do we like doing that," he told reporters. "We are a pro-democracy government. We follow things very closely but at the same time, we cannot interfere with what happens in other countries."

The opposition politicians, led by party leader Sam Rainsy, have planned to return home on Saturday with followers to spark a popular movement to oust long-serving Prime Minister Hun Sen, an autocratic leader who has clamped down on his opponents. Their bid hit a roadblock after Thailand blocked them from transiting through the country.

Human Rights Watch slammed Mu Sochua's arrest as "absolutely ludicrous and unacceptable."

"She's done nothing wrong and should be immediately released and allowed to undertake the consultations she planned with the Malaysia

government and civil society groups," said its Asia deputy director Phil Robertson. "Malaysia should stand up to Cambodia's bullying of its regional neighbors and refuse to do Phnom Penh's dirty work in cracking down against the CNRP exiles."

The party was dissolved by court order in late 2017, allowing Hun Sen's ruling Cambodian People's Party to sweep a 2018 general election. Cambodian courts are widely considered to be under the influence of the government, which employs the law to harass its opponents.

CNRP officials echoed calls for her release.

"We just would like Malaysia to release her urgently because she is on a mission for defending human rights. Do not stop us. Do not block our way. We are doing our best to bring human rights back. Please join hands with us," said Mounh Sarath, the party's Asia public liaison officer.

World

Biggest tropical wetlands ravaged by fires in Brazil

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP)—Fires in Brazil's Pantanal wetlands have ripped through the biodiverse region, consuming an area the size of London in just the past 10 days, burning some animals alive and sending others fleeing.

The inferno in the world's largest tropical wetlands is the latest environmental disaster facing Brazil, coming after a mysterious oil spill that is afflicting beaches in the northeast and August fires that raged in the Amazon region.

The Pantanal, which sprawls over parts of Brazil, Bolivia and Paraguay, is a popular ecotourism destination considered one of the best places to see wildlife in South America. During the wet season, rivers overflow their banks and make most of the region accessible only by boat and plane. In the dry season, wildlife enthusiasts flock to see jaguars lounging on riverbanks, as well as macaws, giant river otters and caiman.

But this year's dry season has extended much longer than usual.

"Any spark in this area these days of high temperatures and very low humidity will start fires like those we've seen in recent days," Julio Cesar Sampaio, chief of WWF Brazil's Cerrado Pantanal program, said by phone. "Only rain will decrease the risk of fire."

Rescue efforts have so far



In this May 18, 2017 photo, Joao Aquino Pereira, right, talks with fellow cowboy Rene Almeida at dawn in Corumba, in the Pantanal wetlands of Mato Grosso do Sul state, Brazil.

found burned remains of caimans, iguanas and snakes. SOS Pantanal, a local group, reported that hyacinth macaws, a vulnerable species, lost much of their primary food source as coconut and palm trees went up in flames, and the blue-and-yellow birds have been seen flying about aimlessly.

Between January and November, the area had 516% more fires than the same period last year, according to data from Brazil's National Institute of Space Research.

While there have been more fires in the Amazon, they have been dispersed across an area roughly half the size of the United States. The blazes in

the Pantanal, by contrast, are concentrated in Corumba, a municipality in Mato Grosso do Sul state. Corumba has had about twice as many fires as the worst-affected municipalities in the Amazon.

"There is no precedent for a fire of this scale," said Angelo Rabelo, president of the Instituto Homem Pantaneiro, an environmental group

based in Corumba.

Fires in the Pantanal this time of year are abnormal because heavy rains usually start in October. Rabelo said waters in the rivers and wetlands drained much faster this year. The Paraguay River, one of the region's main fluvial veins, is at a 20-year low.

"Climate change is here," he said.

Iraq protesters storm Baghdad bridge, medic killed

BAGHDAD (AP)—Anti-government protesters in Iraq stormed a bridge Wednesday in central Baghdad, where security forces pushed them back with batons and tear gas, wounding dozens. A medic was killed while aiding demonstrators.

The military called on the protesters to stop blocking roads and ports, saying they had cost Iraq \$6 billion, and it vowed to arrest those responsible. The U.S. Embassy urged the government to "engage seriously and urgently" with the demonstrators and condemned attacks on them.

Tens of thousands of people have taken to the streets in recent weeks in the capital and across the Shiite south to demand sweeping political change. The protesters complain of widespread corruption, a lack of job opportunities and poor basic services, including regular power cuts despite Iraq's vast oil reserves.

The protesters have focused

their anger on Shiite political parties and militias, many of which have close ties to Iran. Across the south, they have attacked party and militia headquarters, setting some of them ablaze.

In the Shiite holy city of Karbala, protesters attacked the Iranian Consulate earlier this week, hurling firebombs over its walls. Security forces killed at least three people as they dispersed the protest. Days earlier, masked men suspected of links to the security forces opened fire on a demonstration there, killing at least 18 people.

Overnight, at least two protesters were killed in clashes with security forces near the provincial headquarters in the city, according to a protester and a medic who spoke on condition of anonymity for fear of repercussions.

In Baghdad, protesters clashed with security forces on a fourth bridge over the Tigris River after previous clashes forced the closure of

With little precipitation, high temperatures, low humidity and strong winds, fires are spreading fast through the low vegetation, authorities say.

The Mato Grosso do Sul state government said in a press release that the fires are "of a proportion never-before registered" and that the causes were both the dry conditions and "criminal activity."

Firefighters say the cause is likely local people setting fires to clear land of vegetation, a practice also blamed for many of the Amazon fires. Such burning is particularly common among cattle ranchers, who use fire rather than costly equipment to prepare pastures.

Fires in the Pantanal this year have been overshadowed by the months-long period of blazes seen in the Amazon region. The governor of Mato Grosso do Sul declared a state of emergency on Sept. 11 after over 10,000 square kilometers (nearly 3,900 square miles) burned in the previous five weeks in the state's portion of the Amazon.

The Hyacinth Macaw Institute, an environmental group, released a report Wednesday saying the Pantanal destruction in September and October hit the area's biggest center for hyacinth macaw reproduction and also came in the middle of mating season. Of 98 nests monitored, at least four baby birds died, their nostrils clogged with soot.

WORLD BRIEFS

Ambush on mining company convoy kills 37 in Burkina Faso

OUAGADOUGOU, Burkina Faso (AP)—Gunmen attacked a convoy near a Canadian mining site in Burkina Faso, killing at least 37 people and wounding 60 others, the regional governor said late Wednesday. Montreal-based Semafo said the bloodshed happened about 25 miles (40 kilometers) from its Boungou mine in Burkina Faso's Eastern region and involved five buses of employees who were being accompanied by a military escort. Col. Saidou Sanou, the region's governor, gave the provisional casualty toll in a statement. The mining company said only that it was aware of "several fatalities and injuries." "Boungou mine site remains secured and our operations are not affected," Semafo said in its statement. "We are actively working with all levels of authorities to ensure the ongoing safety and security of our employees, contractors and suppliers."

Head of UN agency for Palestinian refugees resigns

UNITED NATIONS (AP)—The head of the U.N. agency for Palestinian refugees resigned on Wednesday following a preliminary internal investigation that raised "management issues," reflecting concerns over allegations of possible sexual misconduct, nepotism and other abuses of authority at the agency. The allegations in a confidential U.N. ethics office report came amid a financial crisis for the agency,

sparked by the unprecedented loss of all funding from the United States, its largest donor. U.N. spokesman Stephane Dujarric said Pierre Krahenbuhl, commissioner-general of the U.N. agency for Palestinian refugees, submitted his resignation, effective immediately, hours after Secretary-General Antonio Guterres had placed him on "administrative leave." The U.N. chief thanked him "for his commitment and dedication" to the U.N. Relief and Works Agency, known as UNRWA, and to Palestinian refugees, Dujarric said.

Attacker stabs 8 at popular Jordanian tourist site

AMMAN, Jordan (AP)—A young man from a Palestinian refugee camp on Wednesday stabbed eight people, including four foreign tourists and their tour guide, at a popular archaeological site in northern Jordan, security officials said. The suspect's family identified him as Mustafa Abu Tuameh. They said the 22-year-old was not a member of an organized militant group and believed he had acted alone. But they said he had recently become very religious, was very poor and apparently planned to die during his attack. "Today he told his mother that he has only 35 piasters (50 cents) and he was going out and might not come back," said an uncle, Younis Abu Amrah. The incident in Jerash, one of the country's most visited destinations, threatened to cast a shadow over the vital tourism industry.

Science & Technology

US to consider genetically altered tree

SYRACUSE, N.Y. (AP)—Chestnuts harvested from high branches on a chilly fall morning look typical: they're marbled sized, russet colored and nestled in prickly burs. But many are like no other nuts in nature.

In a feat of genetic engineering, about half the chestnuts collected at this college experiment station feature a gene that provides resistance to blight that virtually wiped out the American chestnut tree generations ago.

Researchers at New York state's College of Environmental Science and Forestry are seeking federal clearance to distribute thousands of modified trees as part of a restoration effort—a closely-watched move that could expand the frontier for genetically engineered plants beyond farms and into forests. The precedent-setting case adds urgency to a question scientists have already been grappling with:

Should genetic engineering be used in the wild to help save or restore trees?

Opponents warn of starting "a massive and irreversible experiment" in a highly complex

ecosystem. Proponents see a technology already ubiquitous in the supermarket that could help save forests besieged by invasive pests.

"We have this technology, it's a very powerful technology, and we can use that now to save a species," said Professor William Powell, a molecular plant biologist who directs the American Chestnut Research and Restoration Project at the college.

The researchers want the U.S. Department of Agriculture to assess an American chestnut tree with a gene from wheat that helps it tolerate *crystalline parasitica*, a fungus unwittingly imported to the United States over 100 years ago.

The blight decimated a towering tree species once dominant in forests from Maine to Georgia. Nuts from up to 4 billion trees fattened hogs, and its sturdy wood was used to build cabins. Yet by the time Nat King Cole crooned about "chestnuts roasting on an open fire" after World War II, trees were doomed by the blight. Surviving trees today are typically shrubs sprouting from old roots, yet to be infected.

Long-running efforts to breed American chestnut trees with the blight tolerance of Chinese chestnut trees are more complicated than once appreciated. That's because the Chinese tree's tolerance comes from a suite of genes, instead of one or two.

Powell and his research partner Charles Maynard began working on a complementary track decades ago at the request of the New York chapter of the American Chestnut Foundation. The added wheat gene enables trees to produce an enzyme that breaks down harmful acid released by the fungus.

Right now, the trees are tightly regulated. Modified trees grow behind the fence of the college's experiment station near trees without the added gene. Researchers breed the two types of trees for genetic diversity. But flowering branch tips are covered with bags that keep pollen from blowing away. Chestnuts grow and are harvested in the same bags.

About half the chestnuts will inherit the gene, the researchers say.

TECH Q&A: Here's how to upgrade a Mac to Windows 10

Q: I read in your column that PC users with Windows 7 need to upgrade to Windows 10 by January (see tinyurl.com/y29u24sa). I have a MacBook Pro rather than a PC, but I use VMware software to run Windows as a secondary operating system. (I prefer the Windows versions of some financial programs.) How can I upgrade my Mac to Windows 10?

A: You need two things to run Windows 10 as a secondary operating system on your Mac: Nearly any Mac computer purchased since 2011, and an up-to-date copy of the VMware Fusion software for Mac.

For the benefit of other readers, VMware makes "virtual machine" software that enables a computer to run more than one operating system. It also lets the user switch from one OS to the other. (To be precise, the secondary OS runs as an app within the primary OS.)

In this case, the VMware Fusion program does two things for your MacBook Pro: It enables the Mac to run Windows as a secondary operating system, and handles upgrading the Mac to newer versions of Windows (see tinyurl.com/y4pggdrq). Because of the way virtual software works, Mac users can't upgrade Windows 7 to Windows 10 the same way that a PC user would.

There's only one catch. Beginning with the new version of Windows 10 that Microsoft released in May, Mac users discovered that older versions of VMware Fusion couldn't handle the Windows upgrade. They had to upgrade to Fusion version 11.1 to get that capability. (VMware now offers an even newer upgrade to Fusion, version 11.5, for \$50. See tinyurl.com/y6nzaaa8). The website also lists the Mac requirements for using Fusion 11.5, which include using macOS 10.13 (High Sierra), 10.14 (Mojave) or 10.15 (Catalina).

Q: I'm having what I believe is a common problem with Outlook 365, the online version of Microsoft's e-mail program. There are continuous pop-up notifications to verify my e-mail password, and Microsoft's tech support hasn't been able to stop them. The problem isn't with my computer, because I've seen the same thing on three different PCs. What can I do?

A: Others have reported the same problem. Outlook 365 constantly asks for your password, and if you cancel the request you get an error message: "The connection to Microsoft

By STEVE ALEXANDER
Star Tribune (Minneapolis)

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Exchange is unavailable. Outlook must be online or connected to complete this action."

The solution depends on whether Outlook 365 is your only copy of the program, or whether you also have a PC-based copy of Outlook.

If you have only the online Outlook 365, a settings change solves the problem. Use the Control Panel to open the Mail settings, and change the "log-on network security" setting to "anonymous authentication." (For step-by-step directions, see tinyurl.com/y66qnl2y).

But if you use Outlook 365 online and also have a previously installed copy of PC-based Outlook, you may need to run a free Microsoft diagnostic program—called "Microsoft Support and Recovery Assistant"—to find the source of the problem. (Go to tinyurl.com/y3zudfhl to start an automatic download. Then open the downloaded file and install it.)

Q: When I retired six months ago, I was allowed to keep my company laptop that runs Windows 10 Enterprise, a corporate version of the operating system. But now I get a message urging me to "activate Windows," even though the laptop has been running Windows 10 for years. When I try to do that, I get the message: "We can't activate Windows on this device as we can't connect to your organization's activation server." Will I be able to reactivate Windows 10 Enterprise, or do I need to buy a new Windows 10 license to keep using this laptop?

A: You've discovered the problem with keeping a work PC from a large company: While the PC is now yours, its operating system is not.

Your PC's copy of Windows 10 Enterprise is licensed to your former employer. Once your PC left the employer's network, its operating system became a non-activated copy of Windows—meaning it still works, but with limitations.

Here's what that means for you:

■ Because your PC is no longer connected to the corporate network, you probably won't get any operating sys-

tem updates, including vital security updates. (An activated copy of Windows 10 Enterprise normally gets updates via a corporate server.)

■ You'll keep being reminded to activate the operating system, even though you can't.

■ You won't be able to "personalize" the PC by changing the background screen (called "wallpaper") unless you use a workaround (see "Cosmetic Limitations" at tinyurl.com/jgrezts).

To avoid these problems, buy a copy of Windows 10 Pro, which can be used to downgrade Windows 10 Enterprise to the Pro version (see tinyurl.com/yybzyjpa). (Yes, it would be simpler to buy a license for Enterprise, but Microsoft only sells those to corporations.)

The downgrade to Windows 10 Pro is not supposed to cause any loss of data, but backup your information, just in case.

Once installed, Pro will be activated. It will receive Microsoft updates via the internet and have no limitations on its use.

Q: I'm frustrated with the large number of TV commercials. Are there DVRs (digital video recorders) that can record both antenna TV and streaming Internet TV so that I can skip ads?

A: There are DVRs for cable, satellite and antenna TV, and for some types of streaming internet video. Some DVRs handle more than one type of input, but no DVR handles them all. (See tinyurl.com/y3kzfbt, tinyurl.com/yy4z88xq, and tinyurl.com/y5w4kos4).

Q: I copied my Windows 7 TurboTax files to Windows 10, but I can't seem to open them. Windows 10 says to pick an app to do that—what app?

A: You need the TurboTax program to open those files. The online and PC-based versions of the 2019 TurboTax program aren't available yet. But for about \$10 you can buy the 2018 PC-based version, which should be able to read your files (see tinyurl.com/y27vp8gs).

Science Matters

Behold, a mold pig!

The newly discovered *Sialomorpha dominicana*, or "mold pig," is similar to the celebrated water bear and to mites — the tiny scourges of homes, farms and wildlife

Sialomorpha lived 30 million years ago, in the early Age of Mammals
It fed on fungi and remains of other animals

Sialomorpha had legs like the water bear's but lacked its sharp claws

Tardigrades ("water bears") are microscopically small and almost indestructible — they can survive freezing, boiling and even the vacuum of space

Mites are a large family of highly successful, insect-like invertebrates that parasitize animals of all sizes (ear mites), infest homes (dust mites) and can carry viral diseases

Source: George Poinar Jr. of Oregon State University; TNS Photos
Graphic: Helen Lee McComas, Tribune News Service

Its tiny remains were found in amber (fossil tree sap) in the Dominican Republic

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Off The Wall

Standing tall: Scientists find oldest example of upright ape

BERLIN (AP)—The remains of an ancient ape found in a Bavarian clay pit suggest that humans' ancestors began standing upright millions of years earlier than previously thought, scientists said Wednesday.

An international team of researchers says the fossilized partial skeleton of a male ape that lived almost 12 million years ago in the humid forests of what is now southern Germany bears a striking resemblance to modern human bones. In a paper published by the journal *Nature*, they concluded that the previously unknown species—named *Danuvius guggenmosi*—could walk on two legs but

also climb like an ape.

The findings “raise fundamental questions about our previous understanding of the evolution of the great apes and humans,” said Madelaine Boehme of the University of Tuebingen, Germany, who led the research.

The question of when apes evolved bipedal motion has fascinated scientists since Charles Darwin first argued that they were the ancestors of humans. Previous fossil records of apes with an upright gait—found in Crete and Kenya—dated only as far back as 6 million years ago.

Boehme, along with researchers from Bulgaria, Germany, Canada and the United

States, examined more than 15,000 bones recovered from a trove of archaeological remains known as the Hammerschmiede, or Hammer Smithy, about 70 kilometers (44 miles) west of the Germany city of Munich.

Among the remains they were able to piece together were primate fossils belonging to four individuals that lived 11.62 million years ago. The most complete, an adult male, likely stood about 1 meter (3 feet, 4 inches) tall, weighed 31 kilograms (68 pounds) and looked similar to modern-day bonobos, a species of chimpanzee.

“It was astonishing for us to realize how similar certain bones

are to humans, as opposed to great apes,” Boehme said.

Thanks to several well-preserved vertebra, limb, finger and toe bones, the scientists were able to reconstruct how *Danuvius* moved, concluding that while it would have been

able to hang from branches by his arms, it could also straighten its legs to walk upright.

“This changes our view of early human evolution, which is that it all happened in Africa,” Boehme told *The Associated Press* in an interview.

Like humans, *Danuvius* had an S-shaped spine to hold its body upright while standing. Unlike humans, though, it had a powerful, opposable big toe that would have allowed it to grab branches with its foot and safely walk through the treetops.

Man surrenders after authorities edit photo to add costume

KANKAKEE, Ill. (AP)—All it took for one fugitive in Illinois to turn himself in was a little photo manipulation.

WBBM-TV in Chicago reports that the Kankakee County Sheriff's Department posts notices about fugitives on its Facebook page each Wednesday.

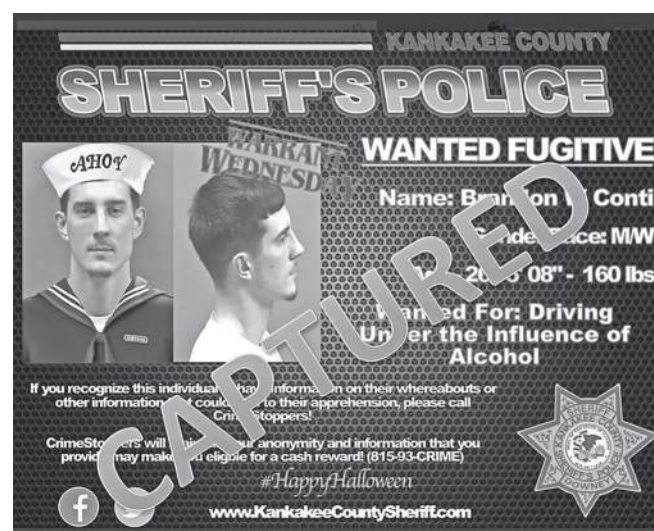
This week, the department posted a picture of Brandon W. Conti. The 25-year-old was wanted for failure to appear on a drunken-driving charge.

Conti commented on the post and asked, “Where’s my costume?”

Sheriff's office staff then edited the photo to add a sailor suit and a hat that read, “Ahoy.”

An officer wrote, “We held up our end of the bargain.”

Conti replied with laughing emojis, noting he would turn himself in “before noon” and



This screenshot from the Kankakee County, Illinois, Sheriff's Police, Oct. 30, 2019, Warrant Wednesday Facebook posting, notifies the public that Brandon W. Conti has been captured under a DUI warrant.

asked that police “have the paperwork done and ready.” The department confirms Conti subsequently turned himself in.

OFFBEAT BRIEFS

Mangoes spilled from truck in Maryland make for traffic mess

BETHESDA, Md. (AP)—Mangoes spilling from an overturned tractor trailer caused a not-so-sweet morning commute on the Beltway in Maryland. News outlets report the truck overturned early Wednesday on Interstate 495 in Bethesda. Montgomery County Fire & Rescue Service spokesman Pete Piringer says one person suffered minor injuries. It's unclear what caused the truck to roll onto its side. The *Washington Post* reports that traffic backed up for miles (kilometers) around 6 a.m. while two lanes of the highway were closed.

'Wizard Rock' that disappeared from Arizona forest returns

PRESCOTT, Ariz. (AP)—A boulder that mysteriously disappeared two weeks ago from a national forest in Arizona is back, and forest officials aren't asking any questions. Prescott National Forest officials said a forest employee on patrol Friday noticed that the 1-ton boulder dubbed “Wizard Rock” had been returned to a site along State Route 89 south of Prescott. The much-admired boulder is black with streaks of white quartz running through it. District Ranger Sarah Clawson said forest officials were thrilled that the rock was returned and “grateful that whoever took it was conscientious enough to give it back to the public.” According to forest officials, it would have required heavy equipment to move the boulder. Permits are required to gather and remove most forest products, including rocks, plants and trees.

Indiana school goes on lockdown when deer crashes inside

US to consider genetically altered tree (AP)—A deer that crashed through a window into a suburban Indianapolis school sent students into lockdown mode during its surprise invasion. Hinkle Creek Elementary School Principal Jack Lawrence says the deer smashed through a window Monday afternoon and entered the Noblesville school's main hallway. The *Indianapolis Star* reports that the school immediately called for a lockdown to ensure that students and staff remained inside classrooms while the deer was roaming inside. Lawrence told parents in an email that the deer eventually pushed its way out of the school's main entrance and ran through a parking lot into nearby woods. He said no one was injured, and normal school operations resumed within minutes of the deer's departure from the school in the city about 20 miles (32 kilometers) north of Indianapolis.

German swingers' club evacuated after carbon monoxide alarm

BERLIN (AP)—Authorities say a swingers' club in western Germany had to be evacuated mid-party after a carbon monoxide alarm went off and several guests reported feeling unwell. Firefighters in the town of Hattingen, between Dortmund and Duesseldorf in North Rhine-Westphalia, told the dpa news agency Sunday that about 300 swingers were brought to safety after the alarm went off late Saturday night. The swingers, many clad just in bathrobes as they left the club, were taken on buses to be examined by first aid workers. About ten complained of feeling unwell and needed treatment. The fire department says no dangerous levels of carbon monoxide were detected once they had arrived. In all, about 160 emergency workers were involved.

College grad says she found secret message in classic poem

MEDFORD, Mass. (AP)—A recent Massachusetts college graduate believes she has discovered a secret message in the epic poem “Paradise Lost,” by John Milton. The *Boston Globe* reports 23-year-old Miranda Phaal found what she believes to be an acrostic while reviewing the poem about the biblical story of Adam and Eve as a senior at Tufts University last year. An acrostic uses the first letters of poem lines to spell a message. Phaal says the first letters of eight lines in one section spell “fall” three times, referring to the falls from grace of Adam, Eve and Satan. She says it could be a coincidence, but says Milton enjoyed secret messages. Phaal published an essay on her discovery in an academic journal in August. Scholars have found what appear to be other “Paradise Lost” acrostics, including one discovered in 1977.

Black cat scampers on field at Cowboys-Giants game

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. (AP)—A black cat got the best of the Dallas Cowboys and New York Giants for a few minutes Monday night. The cat scampered on the field during a Giants drive in the second quarter and forced referee Clay Martin to delay the game while workers at MetLife Stadium and some New Jersey State Troopers herded the feline toward the end zone away from the players. The cat didn't leave right away. It was directed into the corner of the end zone and then sprinted across the end line to a camera platform. For a second, the cat jumped on the platform and then sprang out. It finished its run along the end line before running up the tunnel to the cheers of the crowd. The cat wasn't good luck for the Giants, who lost 37-18.

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July 8, 1973 – October 26, 2019



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Saturday, 10:00 A.M.
November 9, 2019
Grace Christian Assembly
Navy Hill, Saipan

Parents: Kenneth W. & Connie B. Coward

Children: Christopher James Tudela
Jada Lynn Tomokane

Siblings: Rodney Borja
Kenneth (Ken II) Coward
Julia C. Eyer

Your presence, thoughts and prayers are sincerely appreciated

THE FAMILY

Life & Style

Chris Brown

holds high-end yard sale at his Los Angeles home

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Chris Brown held a high-end yard sale Wednesday at his Los Angeles home, with hundreds of fans, gawkers and bargain-seekers waiting for hours to try to get a piece of the singer's stuff.

Brown posted a flyer on his Instagram and Twitter accounts Tuesday night that included the address of his suburban mansion in the Tarzana neighborhood of the San Fernando Valley.

"Featuring significantly marked-down high-end items," the flyer said.

Brown captioned the posts "DA CRIB ... 2 day event" and included a heart emoji.

Brown burst onto the music scene as a teen in 2005. He's had dozens of hits and

won a Grammy Award in 2011 for best R&B album for "F.A.M.E."

But in the past decade, he's also been known for a stream of highly publicized run-ins with law enforcement, starting with a felony assault of then-girlfriend Rihanna in 2009 to which he pleaded guilty.

People began gathering late Tuesday for the sale at his house. A long line that stretched down the sidewalk began slowly moving late Wednesday morning toward a driveway filled with large canvas canopies shading rows of clothes.

Some people told TV stations they had driven from as far away as Arizona and didn't care what they walked away with as long as it belonged to Brown.

Symone Maddox of San



People line up around the block of singer Chris Brown's home in the Tarzana area of Los Angeles Wednesday, Nov. 6, 2019.

AP

Bernardino, California, said she took the day off work to check out the yard sale, hoping to get some hats and hoodies. "I already told my boss,

she told me to bring something back," Maddox said.

The 23-year-old, a hip-hop artist who goes by the name Young Maddox, said she's

been a Brown fan since the beginning of his career and was hoping that she could pass some of her music on to him and get him to sign some merchandise. She said despite owning much of the singer's apparel already, it'd be nice to get something directly from singer.

"I think this is a dope opportunity to be personal with his

fans," she said.

The crowd appeared orderly, remaining mostly on a sidewalk. Police said they had received no complaints.

A news release said the singer plans to donate some of the proceeds to unspecified charities. It was not clear whether he would make an appearance.

Family: France's Catherine Deneuve hospitalized with stroke

PARIS (AP)—French actress Catherine Deneuve has had a mild stroke while filming her latest movie, the screen star's family said Wednesday.

The 76-year-old Deneuve suffered a "very limited and therefore reversible" stroke, according to a family statement sent to The Associated Press by the media representative for Artmedia, the agency that represents Deneuve. It said no further statements were planned.

"Fortunately, she has no motor deficits (but) must, of course, take some time to rest."

Deneuve was hospitalized in Paris, but the family didn't disclose the name of the facil-

ity. No details were given on when she had the stroke, but French media reported that it happened late Tuesday or early Wednesday.

Deneuve has been filming "De son vivant" (In One's Lifetime), the story of a mother who loses her son to cancer. It was the third film by Emmanuelle Bercot, the director, starring Deneuve.

With her long blond hair, heavy eyelids and sultry stare, Oscar-nominated Deneuve first came to prominence in Jacques Demy's 1964 musical "The Umbrellas of Cherbourg."

But longevity was one of

the French film star's greatest skills. She dazzled red carpets as fashion designer Yves Saint Laurent's muse and won myriad awards in a career that spans seven decades.

She won several Cesar Awards, France's answer to the Oscars, including for Francois Truffaut's 1980 hit "The Last Metro" and consolidated her status as one of France's most famous exports with an Academy Award nomination for 1992's "Indochine," a drama set in colonial French Indochina during the 1930s to 1950s.

She hasn't stopped. Deneuve starred in a film re-

leased earlier this year, "Fete de Famille" (Happy Birthday), directed by Cedric Kahn.

Her own family grew via her romantic involvement with several famous men. She had a son, Christian Vadim, with director Roger Vadim, and a daughter, French actress Chiara Mastroianni, with actor Marcello Mastroianni, with whom she had lived.

It was arguably her prize-winning turn in Luis Bunuel's 1967 masterpiece "Belle de Jour," the avant-garde story of a bored young housewife who spends her weekday afternoons as a posh prostitute, for which she may be best remembered.

A CGI James Dean is cast in new film, sparking an outcry

NEW YORK (AP)—James Dean hasn't been alive in 64 years, but the "Rebel Without a Cause" actor has been cast in a new film about the Vietnam War.

The filmmakers behind the independent film "Finding Jack" said Wednesday that a computer-generated Dean will play a co-starring role in the upcoming production. The digital Dean is to be assembled through old footage and photos and voiced by another actor.

Digitally manipulated posthumous performances have made some inroads into films. But those have been largely roles the actors already played, including Carrie Fisher and Peter Dinklage, who first appeared together in "Star

Wars" and were prominently featured in the 2016 spinoff "Rogue One."

But the prospect of one of the movies' most beloved former stars being digitally resurrected was met with widespread criticism after the news was first reported by The Hollywood Reporter. Chris Evans, the "Captain America" actor, was among those who called the plans disrespectful and wrongheaded.

"Maybe we can get a computer to paint us a new Picasso. Or write a couple new John Lennon tunes," said Evans on Twitter. "The complete lack of understanding here is shameful."

Rights to Dean's likeness were acquired by the filmmak-

ers and the production company Magic City Films through CMG Worldwide. The company represents Dean's family along with the intellectual property rights associated with many other deceased personalities including Neil Armstrong, Bette Davis and Burt Reynolds.

Mark Roesler, chairman and chief executive of CMG, defended the usage of Dean and said the company has represented his family for decades. Noting that Dean has more than 183,000 followers on Instagram, Roesler said he still resonates today.

"James Dean was known as Hollywood's 'rebel' and he famously said 'if a man

can bridge the gap between life and death, if he can live after he's died, then maybe he was a great man. Immortality is the only true success,'" said Roesler. "What was considered rebellious in the '50s is very different than what is rebellious today, and we feel confident that he would support this modern day act of rebellion."

Adapted from Gareth Crocker's novel, "Finding Jack" is a live-action movie about the U.S. military's abandonment of canine units following the Vietnam War. Directors Anton Ernst and Tati Golykh are to begin shooting Nov. 17. In an email, Ernst said they "tremendously" respect Dean's legacy.

Netflix serves up 'Green Eggs and Ham' with all-star cast

LOS ANGELES (AP)—When screenwriter Jared Stern was approached about developing Dr. Seuss' "Green Eggs and Ham" as an animated series, he sought advice from one important woman and the consent of another.

"I mentioned it to my grandmother and she said, 'That was your favorite book when you were little. You used to read it to me all the time,'" Stern fondly recalled. "I basically learned to read reading this book."

But he needed more than grandmom behind him. The project required approval from the widow of Theodor Geisel, the singular writer known as Dr. Seuss. So Stern and fellow executive producer Jeff Klee-man made a pilgrimage to her San Diego-area home about five years ago. Audrey Geisel died last year; her husband died in 1991.

"I had to pitch the story to her and it was incredibly scary," said Stern. "Once it was over, she said something to the effect of, 'I wondered what you were going to do with this. But I think you really captured it, and you have our blessing.'"

The result is a 13-episode

series debuting Friday on Netflix with a voice cast that includes Michael Douglas as the character who turns up his nose at green eggs and ham and Adam Devine as Sam-I-am, the dish's cheerleader. Other big-name actors along for the ride include Diane Keaton, Eddie Izzard, Tracy Morgan, John Turturro and Jeffrey Wright. ("Having Ellen DeGeneres as an executive producer certainly helps," Stern said.)

Stern understood Audrey Geisel's initial doubts, since he shared them when the project was proposed by Klee-man, president of DeGeneres' production company. Stern's first reaction: Why mess with perfection? Then he gave the 1960 book another look.

"I started flipping through it and realized, 'Oh, it's an odd couple.' There's the grumpy guy who's closed off to things and a playful guy who's open to things. And not only that, it's a road trip because he won't eat the eggs in a car, on a train, on a boat—here, there and everywhere," he said, allowing the original story to be opened up while staying true to its message and spirit.

Ginsburg, in book, questions confidential #MeToo agreements

By MARYCLAIRE DALE
ASSOCIATED PRESS

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—A new book on Ruth Bader Ginsburg explores the Supreme Court justice's thoughts on the #MeToo movement and her hope that non-disclosure agreements, which have come under fire in sexual misconduct cases, "will not be enforced by the courts."

Several women have spoken out about their encounters with disgraced movie mogul

Harvey Weinstein and other high-profile men despite the financial and legal risk of violating the agreements. Others, including former Fox news anchor Gretchen Carlson, want to be released from the confidentiality clauses, concluding they only serve to cover up abuse and keep victims silent.

In "Conversations with RBG: Ruth Bader Ginsburg on Life, Love, Liberty, and Law," the 86-year-old feminist icon questions whether the #MeToo movement will



AP
In this Monday, Oct. 21, 2019, file photo, U.S. Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg speaks during the inaugural Herma Hill Kay Memorial Lecture at the University of California at Berkeley, in Berkeley, Calif.

settlement that they pay now if they believe that all other employees would know about (it)," said Katz, who represented Christine Blasey Ford in her Senate testimony against Supreme Court Justice Brett Kavanaugh.

Katz also fears the disclosures would make it hard for her clients to find work again.

For Carlson, the secrecy has left her unable to take part in media coverage of her lawsuit against Fox News. She received a reported \$20 million settlement in 2016 after claiming late Fox News chief Roger Ailes fired her after she rejected his sexual advances.

"It's really through NDAs (non-disclosure agreements) and through other means of settling these kinds of cases of sexual harassment that we keep women silent," Carlson told The Associated Press on Saturday.

French director probed for allegedly harassing actress

PARIS (AP)—The Paris prosecutor's office is investigating French director Christophe Ruggia for alleged "sexual aggressions" after French actress Adele Haenel accused him of sexually harassing her when she was an adolescent.

Haenel, now 30, first detailed her allegations against Ruggia Sunday on the French investigative website Mediapart. She says Ruggia, who directed her first film, "Les Diables", repeatedly touched her inappropriately

when she was between 12 and 15 years old.

Ruggia has categorically denied the allegations via his lawyer Jean-Pierre Versini.

The Paris prosecutor's office confirmed to The Associated Press that an inquiry opened Wednesday into Ruggia for "sexual aggressions against a 15-year-old minor."

Haenel told French media this week that she did not wish to file a formal complaint because she didn't trust the French justice system.

render the secrecy clause obsolete in such cases.

"One interesting thing is whether it will be an end to the confidentiality pledge. Women who complained and brought suit were offered settlements in which they would agree that they would never disclose what they had complained about," Ginsburg said at a February 2018 event at the National Constitution Center in Philadelphia that's included in the book.

"I suspect we will not see those agreements anymore," she said at the time.

Ginsburg revised her thoughts in edits made this year, according to the book, which was written by National Constitution Center President Jeffrey Rosen and released Tuesday.

"I hope those agreements will not be enforced by courts," Ginsburg added.

Ginsburg had championed equal protection for women in the

1970s as co-founder of the Women's Rights Projects at the American Civil Liberties Union.

Some lawyers who represent women today in sexual misconduct cases, including Debra Katz and Gloria Allred, pushed back on Ginsburg's view of the non-disclosure agreements, known as "NDAs." They called them essential to securing settlements and protecting their clients' privacy.

"Employers would not be willing to pay the kind of

Elena Ferrante's new book sparks buzz ahead of awaited debut

ROME (AP)—At the stroke of midnight, Elena Ferrante's latest novel debuts in Italy, with bookstores staying open into the wee hours for a legion of excited fans.

Stores planned to offer readings of excerpts of "La vita bugiarda degli adulti" (the lying life of adults) late Wednesday until the much-awaited book goes on sale early Thursday.

Ferrante's latest novel explores the life of a girl in Naples from age 12 to 16.

Ferrante's four-novel saga, starting with "My Brilliant Friend," has sold millions of copies worldwide, with the last book published in 2014. That series began with the tale of the complicated friendship between two young girls in a tough Naples neighborhood.

The new novel's publication in English is scheduled for June 9.

Ferrante's use of a pseudonym has inspired quests to learn the author's identity.

'Fifty Shades' publisher Anne Messitte is leaving company

YORK (AP)—The publisher who helped make E L James' "Fifty Shades of Grey" a phenomenon is being forced out amid a company restructuring.

Anne Messitte, longtime head of the Vintage and Anchor paperback imprints, will depart next month, Knopf Doubleday Publishing Group announced Wednesday.

Spokesman Paul Bogaards said that Vintage and Anchor had operated independently, but now would be more closely aligned with the hardcover publishers Doubleday and

Alfred A. Knopf. He declined further comment on the news, which marks an abrupt end to Messitte's 20-year reign.

Messitte will be succeeded by Suzanne Herz, who will continue in her current job as Doubleday's executive vice president and executive director of publishing. Knopf Doubleday Chairman Sonny Mehta said in a statement that Messitte had invigorated "all aspects of our paperback program" and cited her work with authors and launch of the Spanish-

language publishing program Vintage Espanol.

"Anne has taken our marquee backlist of over five thousand titles and run it as a front-list program," Mehta said, "curating opportunities for our authors, optimizing marketing and media promotion for their books, and developing other strategic initiatives—from series publishing to reading groups to academic marketing and movie tie-in programs—all as a means of driving consumer awareness."

Vintage and Anchor are

two of the premier paperback lines, with authors ranging from Margaret Atwood to Robert Caro. Paperbacks usually follow the hardcover editions, by a few months or longer, but Messitte is best known for signing up books that went straight to paperback.

She is widely credited with spotting the potential of James' explicit fiction, acquiring the "Fifty Shades" trilogy when it was just catching on as a digital release and publishing the books as paperback originals in 2012.

Dinner out is unwelcome gift for couple on restricted diets

DEAR ABBY: My companion of many years and I are retired and live a few hours away from some of his family. When one of them plans a visit, she always insists on taking us out for a meal. She doesn't ask if we would like to eat out but rather "commands" it. Then she insists on paying for the meal.

I enjoy cooking and visiting with family during and after meals. I know what our dietary restrictions are, and most restaurant meals do not meet those requirements, which include low sodium, fat and sugar and no gluten. According to my companion, I'm a good cook, and he enjoys everything I make.

I know I should say something, but what? I need a suggestion on how to deal with the situation without hurting anyone's feelings.

THANKS, BUT NO THANKS

DEAR T.B.N.T.: This relative may not mean to seem overbearing and may only be trying to be nice. Thank her warmly for wanting to take you to dinner, but tell her no. Explain that because of medical reasons, both of you must strictly limit the sodium, fat, sugar and gluten in your diet, which is why the two of you have decided it is "safer" to eat at home, where you can control what goes into your food. Then invite her to join you because you would love to see her and spend time with her while she's in town.

DEAR ABBY: I am in a difficult situation. My dear friends and bosses, "Rebecca" and "Caesar," are selling their home. They had offered to sell it to me and, at the time, I was interested in buying it. Then I did the one thing I never thought I would do. I found love. Because it's no longer just me, their house won't work for us. I was honest with my friends. They have been giving me the silent treatment ever since, and it's causing problems at work. What is a girl to do?

IN LOVE IN THE MIDWEST

DEAR IN LOVE: Recognize that Rebecca and Caesar are understandably upset that what they thought would be a quick and easy sale has now become more complicated. Explain to them again that you didn't mean to cause them a problem, but your circumstances changed. And if they continue to take out their disappointment by punishing you at work, look for another job.

DEAR ABBY: I agreed to pay for a cellphone for a friend's daughter while she went to school in the U.S. She was supposed to be here for three years. WELL, it is now year four, and she's planning to stay here after graduation. How do I tell her that I am not willing to continue paying for

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

her phone after graduation?

TRIED TO HELP IN TEXAS

DEAR TRIED TO HELP: You have several choices. You can tell her parents, write to her or call her on the cellphone you have so generously underwritten. And after you deliver the message, you should be thanked for your generosity not only by her but also her parents.

Good advice for everyone – teens to seniors – is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

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By Bryan Basset



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By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 "Bow-wow!"

4 Boutique

8 Fall (over)

12 Privy

13 Freshener scent

14 Shake-speare villain

15 Pardoned

17 Seize

18 Initial chip

19 Niagara sight

20 Scalawag

22 Work hard

24 Poetic tributes

25 Fair

29 Not 'neath

30 Pie nut

31 Kimono closer

32 Elephant's ancestor

34 Goblet feature

35 Mellows

36 Michelangelo masterpiece

37 Dwarf planet

40 Pleads

41 Activist

42 Guarantee to be true

46 Computer brand

47 Hit on the noggin

48 Lennon's love

49 Green shade

50 Flag

51 Uncivilized

DOWN

1 TV alien

2 Aussie hopper

3 Food seekers

4 Ill will

5 Bee's home

6 Indivisible

7 Signing need

8 Capital of Rwanda

9 British noble

10 Alike (Fr.)

11 High tennis

16 Wilde-beasts

19 Twain hero

20 Lee-way

21 Classic theaters

22 Mexican snacks

23 Algerian port

25 Give up

26 Selects on a ballot

27 Help a crook

28 — bean

30 Comic strip

33 Golden Horde

34 Un-uttered "alas"

36 Bushel quarters

37 Baby carriage

38 Crazy

39 Exploits

40 Chignons

42 TiVo precursor

43 Tic-tac-toe win

44 "— Clear Day"

45 Squabble

Solution time: 25 mins.

Yesterday's answer 11-8

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:

Jack Osbourne, 34; Parker Posey, 51; Courtney Thorne-Smith, 52; Bonnie Raitt, 70.

Happy Birthday: Break out of the old routine, and challenge yourself to try something new and exciting. Focus on personal growth, creative endeavors and honing skills that can help you build a bright future. Take all the knowledge you've gathered and funnel it into something you believe in and want to explore. Change is heading your way; embrace it with open arms. Your numbers are 8, 15, 23, 29, 36, 44, 49.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Take better care of your physical and emotional well-being. Put time aside to move your body and to nourish it properly. It will rejuvenate you and give you the added push you need to explore new avenues. Romance is in the stars. ★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Refuse to let uncertainty lead to stagnation. It's essential to follow through with your plans and learn from every experience. That's how growth takes place. Expand your mind, and it will encourage you to head in new directions. Embrace life. ★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Share information with someone you love. Ask questions to find out where you stand, assess your current personal situation and ask yourself what's best for you. Times are changing, and it's time to rethink your course of action. Romance is encouraged. ★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Emotions will interfere with your responsibilities. Keep busy, finish what you start and mull

over anything that upsets you before you decide to react. Pick your words wisely, and choose to offer encouragement over criticism. ★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Put more time into self-improvement and personal growth. A new look, improved attitude or working on relationships that need to be nurtured will bring high returns. Think less and do more to make your life better. Romance is on the rise. ★★★★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Participate in events that favor your beliefs. Do your part to make improvements that will benefit you as well as everyone around you. Show compassion when dealing with friends and family. Listen, and help make your community a better place. ★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You need to get out more and experience life and love. Plan something special with someone special; it will bring you closer. Taking a day trip or visiting someone who inspires you will encourage new beginnings. Expand your interests. ★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Make plans to do something you've never done, or get together with someone you find interesting and unique. Exploring options, pastimes and people will help you expand your mind and encourage new beginnings. A partnership looks promising. ★★★★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Choose exercise over emotional drama. Blow off steam. Take on a challenge that requires you to use your muscles and intelligence to master skills that will add to your well-being, strength, courage and integrity. ★★

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Let your intuition lead the way. Listen carefully, be observant and make decisions without hesitation. The changes you make now will have a profound impact on the way you live and to the people who remain in your sphere. ★★



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You'll have to rely on your ability to get things done. If you leave your responsibilities to someone else's discretion, you will be disappointed in the decisions he or she makes. Take the time and control the process and the outcome. ★★



PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Take better care of yourself and the ones you love. Moderation is favored. Proper diet, plenty of exercise and sticking close to home and the people you love most are preferred. Strive for peace of mind. ★★

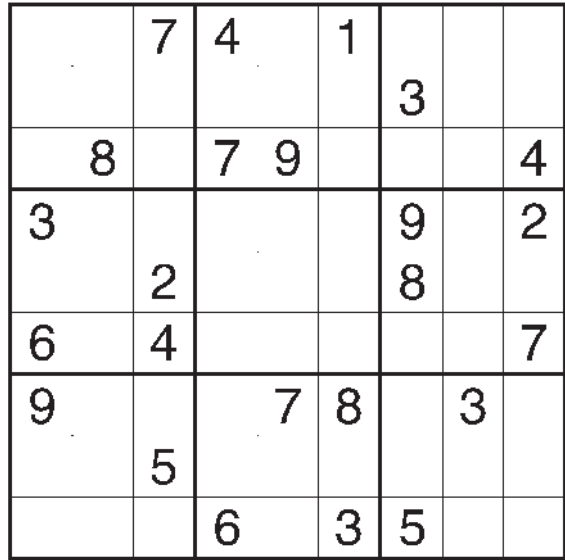
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SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

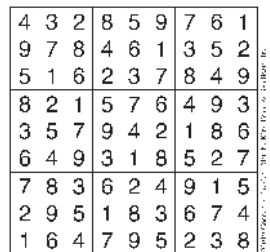


Difficulty Level ★★★★★

11/08

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer



Difficulty Level ★★

STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

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WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

LONG SHOWERS

Solution: 8 letters

S W U P R I G H T R F O G U P
N T A E S N I R A A Y G E L E
N O I T I D N O C D N A T S R
D Y I M E A E I R I D M R G U
N M R T U R A S S O O I N P S
I A A R A L F N T I O I N U S
W O E E S L A A S R G D D G E
N F M A T E U T L N E S N N R
U T I T L S U C I L Y S E I P
L S R C X R H S R N S I S N S
O I G N I H S A W I G I B E O
O M N Z S D O O M Y C N U S A
F S E G N O P S H P S E R O P
A T I M E E M O H T O L C O S
H D A E H R E W O H S O S L G

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11/8

Adding, Circulation, Cleansing, Cloth, Condition, De-stress, Facials, Foamy, Fog Up, Grime, Home, Hygiene, Indoor, Linger, Loofah, Loosening, Mist, Moisturize, Moods, Pores, Pressure, Rinse, Scrub, Shampoo, Showerhead, Singing, Soaps, Sponges, Spray, Stand, Steam, Stimulating, Sudsy, Time, Treat, Unwind, Upright, Warming, Washing, Waterfalls. Yesterday's Answer: Charcoal. Purchase THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD, Volumes 37 through 57 in time for the holidays. Order online at WonderWordBooks.com or call 1-800-642-6480.

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A passion for our mission to help educate everyone in our community learn about ocean and marine science and how we need to care for our precious resources. A good attitude and willingness to help others learn. Good organizational skills, self-motivation and ability to work without supervision. Preference given to individual who are fluent in Chamorro and/or Carolinian languages and those willing to commit the full 36-months of this ANA grant-funded project.

Project Coordinator – One position. The successful candidate will serve as an advocate for marine conservation and ocean protections. Your job will be carrying out the daily tasks related to the project work plans, such as coordinating the science clubs activities and planning field trips. The Project Coordinator reports to the Project Director.

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Probe on free agency 'coordination' launched

N E W YORK—After a frigid market following the 2018 season that saw baseball free agents struggle to strike deals, the MLBPA is getting out in front of things this year.

MLBPA executive director Tony Clark announced on Wednesday that his organization is launching an investigation into statements made by Atlanta Braves general manager Alex Anthopoulos this week regarding free agency.

Per the MLBPA statement, Anthopoulos told reporters that he had been in contact with other teams regarding free agency.

"Every day you get more information," Anthopoulos said. "And we've had time to connect with 27 of the clubs—obviously the Astros and (Nationals) being in the World Series, they were tied up—but we had a chance to get a sense of what the other clubs are going to look to do in free agency, who might be available in trades."

Clark responded that Anthopoulos' statement amounted to coordination between teams regarding free agency, which would constitute a violation of the collective bargaining agreement.

"The statements made by Braves GM Alex Anthopoulos call into question the integrity of the entire free-agent system," Clark said in a statement. "The clear description of club coordination is egregious, and we have launched an immediate investigation looking into the matter."

Anthopoulos' words are up for interpretation. It's unlikely that he chose to intentionally broadcast a plan to collude while



AP
Atlanta Braves general manager Alex Anthopoulos answers questions during a press conference a day following the Braves' loss to the St. Louis Cardinals in a baseball National League Division Series in Atlanta, Thursday, Oct. 10, 2019.

speaking with media members. He could have simply been talking about team building strategy in terms of due diligence on the trade market.

But suggesting that he and management from other teams are openly discussing free agency opens them up to reasonable scrutiny from the MLBPA, especially in light of last year's cold market.

The CBA states that "Players shall not act in concert with other Players and Clubs shall not act in concert with other Clubs."

By those terms, Anthopoulos appeared to admit to broaching a line prohibited by the CBA.

With free agency techni-

cally underway, the MLBPA is playing its role on protecting its constituents.

Giants narrow manager search to 3 finalists

In San Francisco, the Giants have narrowed their search for a new manager to three finalists, a person with direct knowledge of the process said.

Former Phillies manager Gabe Kapler, Astros bench coach Joe Espada and Rays bench coach Matt Quatraro are the final three vying to replace Bruce Bochy, the person said Wednesday, speaking on condition of anonymity because the candidates' names haven't been made public.

Giants president of baseball operations Farhan Zaidi is taking his time making the hire. He has known since February that Bochy would retire.

Others who had been considered were Dodgers bench coach Bob Geren, Giants coaches Ron Wotus and Hensley Meulens, and Athletics coach Mark Kotsay.

The 44-year-old Kapler was fired Oct. 10 after two seasons in Philadelphia and a 161-163 record. With Bryce Harper their blockbuster acquisition, the Phillies finished 81-81 for their first non-losing season since 2012.

Last week, Espada's Astros lost Game 7 of the World Series

to the Washington Nationals. Quatraro and the Rays beat Oakland in the AL wild card game before losing in a five-game division series to Houston.

Bochy managed the Giants to World Series championships in 2010, '12 and '14. San Francisco went 77-85 in his fi-

nal year. The club could look quite different heading into 2020 with lefty ace and 2014 World Series MVP Madison Bumgarner among baseball's top free agents.

The San Francisco Chronicle first reported the three finalists Wednesday.

Bills hope run defense holes plugged in time to face Browns



ORCHARD PARK (AP)—Jordan Phillips takes exception when asked if the Bills have fixed their leaky

run defense.

"I'm pretty sure they had 10 yards in the second half of last game," the defensive tackle said, referring to Buffalo limiting Washington to 18 yards rushing over the final two quarters Sunday.

"All right, next question," Phillips said.

If only it were so easy to deem the problem solved.

Concerns are being raised not for what the Bills successfully did in the final half of a 24-9 win, but rather how the defense was trampled in allowing 327 yards rushing over the previous six quarters, including Washington's 109 in the first half.

Buffalo's run-stopping struggles actually cover the past four games in which the team has allowed 556 yards and six touchdowns. That's a significant downturn for a defense that allowed just 338 yards and three touchdowns rushing in its first four games.

Coach Sean McDermott wasn't as quick to dismiss the questions Wednesday,

with Buffalo (6-2) preparing to play at Cleveland Browns (2-6) on Sunday.

"We'll see. Things just don't go away in this league. You've got to get it right," McDermott said. "Just from my experience being around it, the minute you think you have something fixed, it's not fixed. So it's an ongoing effort."

The Browns present a far more daunting test for Buffalo than an essentially one-dimensional Washington offense. Washington relied mostly on handing the ball off to Adrian Peterson to take the pressure off rookie Dwayne Haskins making his first career start.

Cleveland, by comparison, offers a balanced attack featuring running back Nick Chubb, who's fourth in the league with 803 yards rushing, and a receiving tandem of Odell Beckham Jr. and Jarvis Landry, who have both topped 550 yards.

Then there's the added dimension Kareem Hunt might present, with the league's former rushing champion eligible to return after serving an eight-game suspension.

It's enough to provide the Bills reason for pause.

Day gets Presidents Cup nod to face Woods-led US

MELBOURNE—Ernie Els opted Thursday for the experience of Jason Day and Adam Hadwin alongside rookies Im Sung-jae and Joaquin Niemann, as he made his Internationals Team Presidents Cup captain's picks to face Tiger Woods's Team USA next month.

The Internationals will tee off at Australia's Royal Melbourne from December 12-15 against a star-studded US captained by Woods, who is expected to pick himself when he unveils his four wildcards on Friday.

"It was very difficult for me, but I needed guys in solid form," said Els, speaking from Beijing. "That's why I went for these four guys who are very consistent and strong under pressure."

"I'm really excited by the new blood that's come in and we have experience too. I think it balances things really well," added the four-time major winner.

Australia's former world No.

1 Day will feature in his fifth Presidents Cup despite having seen his ranking slip to 29th, while world number 44 Hadwin will make his second appearance after his debut in 2017.

South Korea's exciting 2019 PGA Tour Rookie of the Year Im and Chile's Niemann have been in spectacular form. Both will make their Presidents Cup debuts.

Im, 21, tied for third with Rory McIlroy two weeks ago at the Zozo Championship in Japan, won by Woods, and the world number 34 followed up with tied 11th at the WGC-HSBC Champions in Shanghai on Sunday.

"Even as a child, it has always been a dream of mine to make the Presidents Cup," Im said.

"I'm so happy to be chosen as a captain's pick. I would really like to beat the United States team."

Niemann, ranked 54, became the first player from Chile to win on the PGA Tour when he triumphed at the Greenbrier in September and the 21-year-old followed up with tied 12th in a high-quality field at the CJ Cup in South Korea last month.

Im is keen to partner fellow rookie Niemann.

"I've played with Joaquin a lot in tournaments and we have a similar style of play," said the Korean. "He's very accurate and I feel like the way we execute our short game is similar."

Li Haotong of China, Taiwan's CT Pan and Mexico's Abraham Ancer will make debuts as automatic qualifiers together with South Africa's Louis Oosthuizen and Japan's Hideki Matsuyama.

Day's selection makes it four Australians in the 12-player team as he joins the already-qualified Cameron Smith, making his first ap-



Bucks hold off Clippers for 4th win in a row



LOS ANGELES (AP)—Giannis Antetokounmpo had 38 points and 16 rebounds, George Hill scored 24 off the bench and the Milwaukee Bucks repelled every threat in beating the Los Angeles Clippers 129-124 on Wednesday night for their fourth victory in a row.

The Bucks hit 18 3-pointers, led by six from Hill.

Antetokounmpo just missed a triple-double with nine assists. He's posted at least 10 rebounds and five assists in each of the first eight games of the season, the first player since at least 1972-73 to do so.

The Clippers were without Kawhi Leonard, who rested for the first half of a home back-to-back. He'll play against Portland on Thursday night.

Montrezl Harrell had a career-high 34 points and 13

rebounds in his first start of the season. Lou Williams added 34 points and 11 assists, and Patrick Beverley had 20 points and 10 rebounds in the Clippers' first home loss.

Led by Hill and Kyle Korver with 14 points, the Bucks reserves outscored the Clippers' bench 47-20, the first time that's happened to Los Angeles this season.

Los Angeles starter Landry Shamet had just two points coming into the fourth, but he made four 3-pointers and finished with 14 points. The last one put the Clippers within two with 23 seconds left.

The Bucks finished off the game at the free throw line, and the Clippers couldn't connect on their multiple chances during their last possession.

The Clippers closed within four early in the fourth, but reigning NBA MVP Antetokounmpo reeled off seven



Milwaukee Bucks' Giannis Antetokounmpo (34) drives to the basket between Los Angeles Clippers' JaMychal Green (4) and Landry Shamet (20) during the second half of an NBA basketball game Wednesday, Nov. 6, 2019, in Los Angeles.

Doncic also had seven rebounds and seven assists.

Gordon led Orlando with 23 points, but had just two after halftime.

Pistons 122, Knicks 102

In Detroit, Tony Snell scored 24 points on 9-of-9 shooting in the Pistons' victory over New York.

Andre Drummond had 27 points, 12 rebounds and seven assists, and Markieff Morris added 22 points to help Detroit beat New York for the eighth straight time. The Pistons played without injured Blake Griffin, Derrick Rose and Reggie Jackson.

Julius Randle led the Knicks with 20 points. They are an NBA-worst 1-7.

Grizzlies 137, Timberwolves 121

In Memphis, Dillon Brooks scored 31 points, rookie Ja Morant added 26 and the Grizzlies held onto a lead to beat Minnesota.

Rookie Brandon Clarke made all seven of his shots and scored 18 points, and Jae Crowder also had 18 points for Memphis. The Grizzlies snapped a three-game losing streak.

Andrew Wiggins led the Timberwolves with 30 points. Karl-Anthony Towns returned from a two-game suspension for a confrontation with Philadelphia's Joel Embiid to finish with 25 points and 13 rebounds.

Pacers 121, Wizards 106

In Indianapolis, T.J. Warren scored 21 points to help Indiana beat Washington.

Doug McDermott scored 17 of his 19 points in the first half, and Domantas Sabonis returned after missing two games with a left calf contusion to finish with 13 points and tie his career high with 17 rebounds. Indiana played for third time in four nights.

Bradley Beal had 30 points for the Wizards.

Bulls 113, Hawks 92

In Atlanta, Tomas Satoransky scored 27 points in Chicago's victory over the Hawks.

Starting his second straight game in place of John Collins, Jabari Parker led the Hawks with 18 points. Collins is serving a 25-game suspension for violating the NBA's doping policy.

Walker making defensive impact, too

BOSTON (AP)—Kemba Walker scrunched up his face in disbelief before the reporter could even clarify his point.

"I'm always at the top of the league in taking charges," Walker protested, taking umbrage at the suggestion that one might not have known, watching from afar, all the little ways that Walker impacts the game, including his charge-taking acumen.

Yes, Walker finished third in charges taken in each of the past three seasons, drawing a total of 79 charges in that span. He sits third in charge takes early in the 2019-20 season but is on pace to shatter his three-year average of 26.3 having drawn five whistles through six games this year.

So, Walker is eager to clarify that defense has long been in his toolbox.

"High school, earlier even, I've always been a charge-taker," said Walker. "At one point in my career, I was really like a high-energy defensive guy. That's just what I was until I really started to develop offensive skills."

"Defense was something that I did for a very long time. Taking charges, it's something that I've been doing for a very very very long time, man. It's just a part of this game, it's a part of winning. Sacrificing your body, sacrificing yourself. For me, I want my teammates to see me do things like that. I want them to know that I want to win. And I want them to know they can do it as well."

Walker is understandably

regarded as one of the NBA's elite offensive players. His ability to score has helped him become a three-time All-Star and landed him on the All-NBA third team last season.

But watching him on a nightly basis, you gain a greater appreciation for the little ways that Walker impacts the game, defensively. What he gives up in size, he's trying to make up in effort, often disrupting with his speed and ability to get to the right spots, which helps him draw those charges.

Noted new teammate Enes Kanter: "People don't see all the little things that Kemba does to help winning. But we see it."

No one is making a case for Walker on an All-Defense team. Boston's on/off numbers this season hammer home the fact that they are a decidedly better defensive team when Walker is on the bench. Boston owns a team-worst defensive rating of 108.2 in Walker's 208 minutes of floor time and it plummets to a team-best 84.1 in the 80 minutes when he's off the court.

Some of that is a small sample size that will stabilize a bit moving forward. Last season in Charlotte, the Hornets had a defensive rating of 111.8 with Walker on the court but that was slightly below their season average (112). Alas, the Hornets off-court defensive rating was a team-best 108.4 without Walker.

What the offense gains with Walker often offset any defensive dip. But one thing is for certain, Walker is trying hard to make an impact.

straight points to keep the Bucks ahead 115-103.

Former Clipper Eric Bledsoe added 20 points, and Brook Lopez had 11 points and 12 rebounds for the Bucks.

The Clippers erased an 11-point deficit in the third. They forced three ties, but each time Antetokounmpo answered for the Bucks. He dunked, hit a 3-pointer and made two free throws.

Milwaukee outscored the Clippers 15-6 to take a 98-89 lead into the fourth.

The Bucks opened the second on a 30-11 run, hitting five 3-pointers, for their largest lead of 17 points. Hill scored 14 points to help the Bucks lead 70-59 at halftime. They closed with three consecutive 3s, two by Hill and the last by Korver, who beat the buzzer.

Rockets 128, Warriors 112

In Houston, James Harden had 36 points and 13 assists and the Rockets routed Golden State, sending the short-handed Warriors to their sixth loss

in eight games this season.

Harden again appeared to be moving past his early shooting woes, going 6 of 16 from 3-point range. Since going 17 of 79 on 3s in his first six games, Harden has made 13 of 32 the last two.

Russell Westbrook had 18 points, eight rebounds and six assists. P.J. Tucker had 22 points and 11 rebounds, Clint Capela added 19 points and 16 rebounds, and Austin Rivers was 4 for 4 from 3 with 12 points.

Alec Burks led Golden State with 28 points. Eric Paschall had 19 points, and Glenn Robinson III added 15 points and 11 rebounds.

Already reeling from injuries to Splash Brothers Stephen Curry (broken hand) and Klay Thompson (knee surgery) and the loss of Kevin Durant, the Warriors were without D'Angelo Russell (sprained ankle) and Draymond Green (index finger) for a third straight game.

Raptors 124, Kings 120

In Toronto, Pascal Siakam had

23 points and 13 rebounds, Kyle Lowry scored 24 points and the Raptors beat Sacramento.

Serge Ibaka scored 10 of his 21 points in the fourth quarter, and OG Anunoby had a season-high 18 for defending champion Toronto. The Raptors won their fifth straight over the Kings.

Harrison Barnes had 26 points for Sacramento. Bogdan Bogdanovic scored 13 of his 22 in the fourth quarter, and Buddy Hield added 21.

Mavericks 107, Magic 106

In Dallas, Luka Doncic scored 27 points and Dallas drew two charges on Aaron Gordon in the final minute, helping the Mavericks beat Orlando.

Trying to protect a one-point lead, the Mavericks had two of their 17 turnovers on consecutive possessions before each of the fouls on Gordon, who was trying to drive on the first call and attempting to make a move at the 3-point line on the second.

Pregnant Morgan still plans to play in Olympics

GARDENA, Calif.—Alex Morgan, co-captain of the U.S. women’s national soccer team, said she plans to play in the 2020 Summer Olympics even though she’s pregnant and expecting a baby girl in April—less than four months before the Games begin.

The Opening Ceremonies for the Tokyo Games are scheduled for July 24.

“I hope to get back on the field as soon as possible,” Morgan, 30, told USA TODAY Sports on Tuesday. “After having a healthy baby, I want to get back with the national team and look forward to playing in Tokyo.”

This will be Morgan’s first child, and she said motherhood will not derail her soccer career. She has developed into a star as a member of the U.S. women’s teams that won 2019 World Cup, the 2015 World Cup and the 2012 Olympic gold.

“There are so many women that have been able to come back to their respective sport after pregnancy and continue to have a successful family while playing their sport that they love at the highest level,” she said. “I plan to follow in those footsteps and be one of those women who have a family and carry my daughter around as I’m going to the next city to play. And I still



In this June 24, 2019 file photo, United States’ Alex Morgan, right, duels for the ball with Spain’s Virginia Torrecilla during the Women’s World Cup Round of 16 soccer match at Stade Auguste-Delaune in Reims, France.

want to continue to enjoy the sport that I’ve been playing for all my life.”

On Tuesday afternoon, Morgan was at Vincent Bell Park in Southern California to unveil a mini soccer pitch. She joined members of the girls soccer team at nearby Glendale High School during light drills on the new pitch—84 feet long and 40 feet wide on an acrylic surface similar to a

tennis court.

Powerade, the official sports drink of the U.S. women’s team, partnered with the U.S. Soccer Foundation on the project that will feature programming specifically designed for young girls.

“More access to the sport, especially in an underserved area of Los Angeles, is important to me,” Morgan said.

She expressed just as much

passion when asked about the U.S. women team’s lawsuit against U.S. Soccer seeking to be paid as much as members of the U.S. men’s national team. A trial date has been set for May 5, but Morgan said she hopes the case will be settled out of court.

A lot is going on behind the scenes,” she said. “There’s been a lot of progress made. But we’ll continue to fight for

what is right and what we deserve and we continue to say the same thing. It’s not just about equal pay. It’s about equal investment in the sport. It’s about equal marketing, advertising and along those lines it’s about equal opportunity for us to make similar or the same income as the men’s team.”

Since the U.S. women won the World Cup with a 2-0 victory over the Netherlands on July 7 in France, Morgan said, life has been a whirlwind.

“Starting with the ticker tape parade in New York City, which is one of the best moments ever,” said Morgan, who won the Silver Boot during the 2019 World Cup as the tournament’s top scorer behind only teammate Megan Rapinoe. “Just seeing hundreds of thousands of people come out and support us. Chanting our names, chanting ‘Equal Pay,’ we’ve heard a lot of that. And just supporting us was incredible.”

“Then from there, I’ve had the opportunity to do a lot of speaking engagements where I’ve been able to speak on behalf of the team and what it was like to go through a World Cup on leadership and teamwork.

So that’s been exciting and a little new for me as well.”

In addition to cutting back on her training, Morgan said, she has made another concession to pregnancy: she’s more flexible with the vegan diet she said she started 2 1/2 years ago.

“I’ve dipped into the more vegetarian lately,” Morgan said. “With the pregnancy, it’s whatever kind of cravings I have that day. But I try to stick to primarily plant based.”

With motherhood and the Olympics ahead, Morgan said she’s refraining from making too many plans. She and her husband, professional soccer player Servando Carrasco, announced the pregnancy on Oct. 23.



TWIN

From Page 32

shut down Saipan International School in the other Final Four pairing, 3-0.

Markus Toves brought Mt. Carmel to the division finale, as he scored all five goals for the Knights. He lit up the board in the 19th, 21st, 37th, 40th, and 66th minute to single-handedly beat Hopwood 2. The Hitlits got their lone goal from Jereme Quimzon.

The easy victory over Hop-

wood extended Mt. Carmel’s winning run this season to six after it swept the round-robin elimination.

In the other semis game in the division, FMS foiled the highly anticipated SIS-Mt. Carmel finals showdown after stunning the Geckos. Mark Joshua Roque stepped up for FMS with his pair of goals, while Frank Basa delivered the other goal for the squad. Basa drew first blood with his shot in the 27th, while Roque found his target in the 40th and 63rd minute.

In the elementary division, Mt. Carmel also waltzed its way to the finale after routing Saipan Community School, 6-0.

Michael Calvo towed the Knights to the lopsided victory after making three goals. He scored his first two in the 30th and 37th minute and completed the hat trick in the 38th. Jayson Tagabuel, Julio Monserrat, and Hope Mcquay added one goal apiece after hitting the board in the fourth, 11th, and 13th minute, respectively.

While the Mt. Carmel-SCS

semis duel was decided right after the regulation, the other Final Four matchup featuring Garapan Elementary School and William S. Reyes Elementary School went down into a shootout.

The Mallards, who drew the game-tying goal from Claude Ruben, went on to prevail in the decider, 3-2, to set up a finals encounter with the favored Knights.

The schedule of the title matches in the elementary and middle school divisions will be announced next week.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Mt. Carmel School players and team officials pose for a photo after defeating Hopwood Middle School 2 in their semis game in the 2019 NMIFA Interscholastic Soccer League last Wednesday at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville.

OLD B

From Page 32

Mark Esalan logged the lone goal for TanHoldings.

TanHoldings played two matches last week and had a split, as it earlier routed the Old B Bank, 6-1, behind the hat trick of Esalan.

Meanwhile, in the lone Division B game last Sunday, Kanoa Football Club hammered the CNMI Women’s National Team, 11-4.

J.C. Piring starred in the easy victory after delivering four goals. He scored in the 12th, 26th, 33rd, and 67th

minute. John Ezekiel Canape added two goals, while Jacob Montes, Joseph Rasa, Markus Toves, Jaydee Jose, Davy Laxa, and Ian Maniago contributed one each.

Jannah Casarino recorded three goals for the WNT, while Nathanette Blas chipped in one.

With the win, Kanoa remained in the company of Island Star, as the two teams have four victories apiece with the latter still unbeaten and the former holding one loss.

The WNT has yet to make it to the win column after dropping its first five matches this season.

M-LEAGUE STANDINGS

(As of Nov. 5, 2019)

DIVISION A							
TEAMS	W	D	L	PTS	GA	GA	GD
All Blue	3	1	0	10	13	3	10
Paire	3	1	2	10	19	12	7
TanHoldings	3	0	2	9	14	14	0
KFAS	1	0	3	3	5	13	-8
Old B Bank	1	0	4	3	4	13	-9
DIVISION B							
Island Star	4	0	0	12	16	6	10
Kanoa	4	0	1	12	25	15	10
Shirley’s	2	0	3	6	17	17	0
Matansa	1	0	2	3	8	11	-3
WNT	0	0	5	0	9	27	-18

CAMACHO

From Page 32

(206) were the other competitors in the A Flight.

Camacho’s victory was his second of the season in the same class. He had his first A Flight triumph in 2019 during the 23rd Hyatt Regency Saipan Charity Golf Classic held at the Laolao Bay Golf & Resort in April. Camacho carded a 3-over par 76 to win by three shots against Tim Goodwin.

The GCA junior also played in the 24th Governor’s Tournament of Champions on Saipan a couple of months ago and finished tied for third to fourth place with Freddy Salavaria after a two-day total of 167 to earn an invite to the Guam event.

In the Governor’s Tourism Cup, Camacho and the more than 100 golfers had a tougher time in the second round, as the tee boxes were moved farther to provide a greater challenge to participants.

Saipan Vegas sweeps regular season

By **ROSELYN B. MONROYO**
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REPORTER

Vegas never looked back en route to the 15-point win.

Saipan Vegas finished the regular season of the 2019 Atkins Kroll Marianas International Basketball League with a perfect record following a 105-90 victory over MS Villagomez last Wednesday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Most valuable player candidate Douglas Schmidt scored 30 points in the last game in the elimination round to hand Saipan Vegas a 9-0 mark. The undefeated squad is seeded first in the playoffs and will face Caravan's (5-4) in a best-of-three semis series, starting tonight. The other Final Four pairing will have No. 2 IT&E (8-1) battling No. 3 MS Villagomez (6-3).

Schmidt caught fire early, sizzling for 11 points in the first period to give Saipan Vegas a double-digit lead, 35-14. Coby Santos backed up Schmidt, adding 10 in the opening frame and Saipan

IT&E 101, The Game 82

IT&E also ended its regular season assignment on a positive note after downing The Game in the curtain-raiser last Tuesday.

Eight IT&E players scored in double figures with Errol Peredo leading the way after making 18 markers.

After facing a 19-23 deficit in the first period, IT&E buckled down to work in the second to steal the driver's seat and hung on to it the rest of the way by spreading the wealth.

Mystique BBQ 72, Caravan's 68

Mystique BBQ pulled off an upset win over Caravan's to bow out of competition in style.

Mystique finished the regular season with a 4-5 record for sixth place in the team standings of the 10-squad field. Caravan's ended up with a 5-4 slate—the same mark that Bridge Capital had, but the former took the last semis berth after prevailing in the tiebreak (via win



KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA

Saipan Vegas' K.J. Kabriel, right, takes off for a layup against The Game's Jun Fidelino during their match in the 2019 Atkins Kroll Marianas International Basketball League last month at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium. Saipan Vegas swept the regular season after winning over MS Villagomez last Wednesday, 105-90, while The Game was beaten by IT&E, 101-82.

TUESDAY First Game

IT&E 101—Peredo 18, De Guzman 16, De Dios 14, Demapan 12, Guiab 12, Aranda 11, Barbo 10, Devero 4, Talania 4.

The Game 82—Mintac 31, Fidelino 20, Javier 30, Parulan 6, Castro 2, Sablan 2, Hernandez 2.

Scoring by quarters: 19-23, 45-40, 69-60, 101-82.

Second Game

Mystique BBQ 71—Jandoc 21, Bernardo 20, Tekopua 9, Dancel 7, Torres 5, Galulu 4, Castillo 2, Gaviola 2, Moises 2.

Caravan's 68—Quan 15, Factor 11, Standish 11, Viray 7, Rasa 7, Castro 6, Villarin 4, Younis 3, Sablan 2, Tenorio 2.

Scoring by quarters: 20-21, 31-32, 52-54, 71-68.

FINAL TEAM STANDINGS

Teams	W	L
Saipan Vegas	9	0
IT&E	8	1
MS Villagomez	6	3
Caravan's	5	4
Bridge Capital	5	4
Mystique BBQ	4	5
Aqua Resort	3	6
The Game	3	6
AK Toyota	2	7
TanHoldings	0	9

All-MHS duel in opener of girls high school caging

By **KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA**
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REPORTER



One of the opening games in the 2019-2020 Public School System Interscholastic Girls High School Basketball League on Nov. 14 will pit Marianas High School Varsity against MHS Junior Varsity.

The all-Lady Dolphins duel will be played at 4:30pm on the north side of the MHS Gymnasium, while the other curtain-raiser on the south court will have Grace Christian Academy facing Mt. Carmel School.

Other matches scheduled for next week are Kagman High School vs Saipan Southern High School and MHS JV vs Agape Christian School at 5:15pm, and MHS Varsity vs GCA and Saipan Southern vs Mt. Carmel at 6pm.

Each game will be played in a 5x5 format with 12-minute halves. Matches will be held every Tuesday and Thursday.

Each squad will have 10 games in the elimination round, while the playoffs will be a double-elimination affair and will take place on Jan. 10 and 11, 2020. Tinian and Rota will join the playoff round as middle seed teams.

Kanoa clings to girls U16 lead

By **ROSELYN B. MONROYO**
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REPORTER

Kanoa Football Club kept its slim lead in the girls U16 division of the 2019 NMIFA Fall Youth League after beating MP United, 6-2, last Saturday at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville.

Lynzey Green and Desiree Decena scored two goals apiece for Kanoa, while Khristelle Itaas added one to lift their team to a 7-1-0 win-

draw-loss record—just one win ahead of TanHoldings.

Kanoa, which got an own goal in their game against MP United, has to games left in the double-round robin competition and a victory over Southern United tomorrow will boost the squad's bid for the division title.

MP United, which dropped to a 2-0-6 mark and is out of contention for the season championship, drew its two

goals from Jin Hee Woo and Stephanie Kim.

In other results in the division, TanHoldings and Southern United defeated their respective opponents.

TanHoldings walloped Shirley's FC, 14-0, to keep its division title hopes alive.

Mary Joy Aniana led TanHoldings' lopsided victory after firing four goals.

Southern United also eased its way to win after routing Matansa, 15-1.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

MP United Football Club's Maury Zon Tybaco, left, and Khristelle Itaas, second left, ward each other off as they battle for the ball during the first half of their girls U16 game in the 2019 NMIFA Fall Youth League Saturday at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville.

Keisha Deleon Guerrero delivered four goals for Southern United, while Pia Ngewalk logged the lone goal for Matansa.

BOYS U15 Kanoa 3, Matansa 0

Kanoa is in the race, too for the boys U15 division title, as it remained on top of the team standings after shutting down Matansa.

Kanoa now has a 5-1-0 slate, one win ahead of MP United and two victories up against TanHoldings. Both MP United and Kanoa have two games left in the double-round robin contest, while TanHoldings

has three remaining matches.

Markus Toves registered a brace for Kanoa, while Sean Gil posted the other goal for the leading squad.

MP United 11, Shirley's 2

MP United remains a threat to Kanoa's season championship bid, as the former notched win No. 4 after crushing Shirley's.

Dylan Mister handed MP United four goals, while Andy Kim contributed three. Rafal Robalt and Gabriel Arkoh scored the two goals for Shirley's, which is still winless in the competition.

2019 NMIFA Fall Youth League

TEAM STANDINGS (As of Nov. 2, 2019)

CO-ED U12 DIVISION

CLUB	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
TanHoldings	7	0	0	43	14	29	21
Kanoa	5	0	2	26	16	10	15
MP United	1	1	5	27	23	4	4
Shirley's	0	1	6	14	57	-43	1

BOYS U15 DIVISION

CLUB	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
Kanoa	5	1	0	32	8	24	16
MP United	4	1	1	27	10	17	13
TanHoldings	3	0	2	11	12	-1	9
Matansa	1	0	5	8	17	-9	3
Shirley's	0	0	5	7	38	-31	0

GIRLS U16

CLUB	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
Kanoa	7	1	0	46	17	29	22
TanHoldings	6	1	1	51	9	42	19
Southern United	5	2	1	43	11	32	17
Shirley's	2	0	6	32	53	-21	6
MP United	2	0	6	26	50	-24	6
Matansa	0	0	8	13	61	-48	0

BOYS U18

CLUB	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
TanHoldings	7	1	0	31	9	22	22
MP United	3	2	3	26	18	8	11
Kanoa	2	3	3	20	29	-9	9
Matansa	0	2	6	8	29	-21	2



Probe on
free agency
'coordination'
launched

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Saipan Tribune Sports

Bucks hold
off Clippers
for 4th win
in a row

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Twin titles within Knights' reach



By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Mt. Carmel School moved closer to a pair of championships in the 2019 NMIFA Interscholastic Soccer League after prevailing in the semis matches in the middle and elementary school divisions of the competition.

Mt. Carmel School's Leland Deleon Guerrero, right, leads the Knights' attack, while teammate Ruben Guerrero follows him during their regular season game against Hopwood Middle School 2 in the 2019 NMIFA Interscholastic Soccer League at the Oleai Sports Complex Field. Mt. Carmel and Hopwood 2 met anew last Wednesday with the Knights winning, 5-1, to advance to the finals.

In the middle school semis last Wednesday at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville, the Knights cruised past Hopwood Middle School 2, 5-1, to set up a title showdown against the Francisco M. Sablan Middle School, which



See **TWIN** on **Page 30**

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Camacho tops A Flight of Guam tourney



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Sebastian "Tiny" Camacho poses with his trophy after winning the A Flight of the 27th Annual Governor's Tourism Cup Championship Golf Tournament held at the LeoPalace Country Club in Guam last weekend.

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
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REPORTER



Tourism Cup Championship Golf Tournament held at the

CNMI junior golfer Sebastian "Tiny" Camacho ruled the A Flight of the 27th Annual Governor's Tourism Cup Championship

LeoPalace Country Club in Guam last weekend.

The Grace Christian Academy student, who has been topping local tournaments in the past few years and represented the CNMI to the Pacific Games in Samoa last summer, prevailed in the A Flight of the Guam event after registering a two-day total of 164.

In Day 1 of the tournament, Camacho fired a 6-over 78 for a three-stroke lead against Iwanaga Mitsu. The junior golfer had a 38 on the front nine and 40 on the back.

On the second day of the competition, the CNMI golfer delivered an 86, built around his 45 in the first nine holes and 41 in the last. Camacho went on to win A Flight by six strokes against Markus Nampel, who saved an 87 in the second round to go with his 83 and steal the runner-up honors from Mitsu. The Japanese settled for third place after recording a 91 in Round 2—way behind his 81 in the opening round. Uriah Perez (186), Amier Younis (189), Joel Hocog (199), and Ken Duenas

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Old B Bank notches first win

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The Old B Bank snapped its four-game losing skid after nosing out Korean Football Association on Saipan, 1-0, in the Division A match in the 2019 Spring Men's M-League last Sunday at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville.

Panapa Peteru recorded the lone goal in the match after finding the back of the net in the 11th minute to give the Old B Bank its first win of the season. Despite the victory, the Old B Bank is still at the cellar with KFAS, occupying the fifth and fourth spot in the team standings, respectively.

All Blue, which drew a bye last

weekend as majority of its players are suiting up for the CNMI Boys U19 National Team that is seeing action in the Asian Football Confederation U19 Championship 2020 Qualifiers in Cambodia, is ahead in Division A with its 3-1-0 record.

At close second is Paire, which got its third win last Sunday after dominating TanHoldings, 5-1.

Alan Gudino, Danny Agulto, and Samuel Smith scored for Paire, while

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The Old B Bank's Fradel Sedillo, left, beats Junsik Kim to the ball during their Division A game in the 2019 Spring Men's M-League at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville.

